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Court rules against would-be mother

EVELYN GORDON and Itim

IN a precedent-setting decision, the Supreme Court yesterday ruled that a man has a fundamental right not to be a parent.

Danny and Ruti Nahmani, who could not have children, agreed that they would have a child by fertilizing her egg with his sperm *in vitro*, and then implanting it in a surrogate. Later, however, the marriage broke up, and Danny asked that the fertilized egg not be implanted.

A lower court ruled in Ruti's favor, but the Supreme Court reversed this.

"The battle was important for me," Ruti Nahmani, who will now almost certainly remain childless, said after the ruling. "I didn't compromise; I fought to the end. I will always be able to look myself in the eye and say, 'Ruti, you didn't surrender.' I'm proud of myself."

But, she added, she also felt she had lost. "I don't feel like a winner," her estranged husband Danny said. "I feel that justice was done in that a child won't be brought into this situation. I feel, I understand Ruti's pain. I always understood Ruti's pain, but that pain doesn't give her the right to force me to have a child against my will."

"I feel sympathy for her, and pain over what we suffered during this legal process. I wish her much success and hope she succeeds in bringing a child into the world." Full story, Page 20

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	SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	6:19	7:34	
Tel Aviv	6:37	7:36	
Haifa	6:29	7:35	
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Eilat	6:37	7:34	



Rivka Cohen, mother of slain Border Police Insp. Nitzan Cohen, mourns at his grave yesterday

(Flash 90)

Russian FM arrives from Syria today

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev arrives this afternoon for a three-day visit. His meetings here are likely to focus on Russia's desire to play, or at least be seen as playing, a bigger role in the peace process, and on Israel's opposition to Moscow's construction of a nuclear reactor in Iran, officials in Jerusalem indicated.

Kozyrev will meet with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Gaza tomorrow, and will hold talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and other senior officials on Sunday.

Some believe that Kozyrev will be bringing a message to Rabin from Syrian President Hafez Assad, whom he met yesterday at the presidential palace in the coastal city of Latakia. Kozyrev gave Assad a message from Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Meanwhile, US peace process coordinator Dennis Ross will return to the region next week to arrange renewed Israeli-Syrian military talks, according to Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin.

Beilin, who met with Ross in Washington yesterday, told Israeli reporters that those talks are essential to induce a breakthrough in

DAVID MAKOVSKY, HILLEL KUTTLER and news agencies

the negotiations. Ross will also visit Amman, to participate in a steering committee meeting for next October's economic conference there, Beilin said.

He also said the US should step up its involvement in Israeli-Syrian negotiations, if it wants to see an agreement this year.

"The American role is vital for achieving peace with the Syrians and other parties," Beilin told the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "If the Americans are not involved directly, we will not have peace with Syria in the next nine months."

Beilin said he didn't know whether Assad is really interested in reaching an agreement with Israel. But he warned about the closing window, saying that if Assad "really wants peace, he should look at his watch."

Secretary of State Warren Christopher has participated in this week's ambassadorial talks, and Israeli officials are "optimistic" that an announcement on including military officials is likely soon.

Among the issues Kozyrev was to discuss during his stay in Syria was how Russia could get back the more than \$11 billion owed the former Soviet Union for arms. Diplomats said economic and military cooperation was expected to dominate the talks. Kozyrev was accompanied by several businessmen and bankers, who are also accompanying him here.

Russia's recent agreement to build a nuclear reactor in Iran, which Moscow claims will only be used for peaceful purposes, is sure to be high on the agenda here.

Israel has not accepted Russia's explanation that Iran accepts the visitations of the International Atomic Energy Agency, noting that this did not stop Saddam Hussein from achieving nuclear potential.

While Israel does not believe it alone can persuade Russia to stop building the reactor, it is counting heavily on Washington to use its leverage in dealing with Moscow.

Another issue that has been dealt with in some detail in anticipation of Kozyrev's visit is the question of ownership of properties (Continued on Page 19)

'Miracle' HIV child now free of disease

A CHILD who was infected with the AIDS virus during his birth seems, after five years, to have completely cleared the virus from his body without any medical intervention.

Calling the case "a miracle," the boy's physicians at the University of California at Los Angeles Medical Center said Wednesday that the Los Angeles boy is completely healthy.

There have been previous anecdotal reports of such clearances of the human immunodeficiency virus, but this is the first such case

that has been thoroughly documented in a laboratory from the time of infection.

It is the only case where physician misdiagnosis or laboratory contamination can be ruled out as explanations for apparent clearance of infection. The details of the case appear in the latest edition of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The child's physician, Dr. Yvonne Bryson, said she used advanced techniques that can find viral genetic material - not just antibodies to the virus - to detect

HIV in the baby's bloodstream at 19 days and 51 days after birth. But when he reached his first birthday, the UCLA team was unable to find any more virus in the boy's blood. Continued re-

tests over the last four years have also been negative.

"The question is, why did it clear?" Bryson said in an interview. "And why did it clear in a (Continued on Page 19)

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IDF inquiry: Jeep ramming no accident

ALON PINKAS, JON IMMANUEL, and BILL HUTMAN

THE IDF yesterday concluded that the ramming of a Border Police jeep by a Gaza truck on Wednesday, in which two policemen were killed, was a deliberate attack.

In a statement last night, the IDF said that debriefings of witnesses, border policemen, and soldiers who were in other vehicles in the convoy clearly showed that the Palestinian truck driver veered purposefully into the Border Police jeep.

The jeep was one of three accompanying Israeli vehicles on the Gaza bypass road, south of Gaza City between Netzarim and the Karni checkpoint. The IDF inquiry found that, after the collision, truck driver Mufid Hajjaj, 23, left his vehicle and walked toward a civilian car waving a pistol - which afterward was found to be a plastic toy - and calling for the occupants to raise their hands. One passenger shot at Hajjaj and missed, just before he was shot and killed by three soldiers.

The soldiers told investigators the driver had screamed "Allahu akbar" as he approached the civilian vehicle and they shot him because he was clearly brandishing what looked like a pistol.

According to the inquiry, the truck's tire marks indicate that, at the speed it was traveling and given the good visibility at the time, there was no apparent reason for it to swerve into the jeep. But the inquiry also states that, since the driver was killed, his intent cannot be unequivocally established.

The IDF notified Palestinian authorities of the findings, and asked that the driver's family be questioned to determine with greater certainty whether the ac-

cident was deliberate. Hajjaj was killed "in cold blood," Palestinian security chief Maj.-Gen. Nasser Yusef said yesterday.

Yusef called for an urgent meeting of the Joint Security Committee established last month to discuss the deterioration in Israeli-Palestinian coordination. At a Gaza press conference called to present a final report on the truck crash, Yusef said Hajjaj had carried no toy gun, was a member of no political organization, had a permit to enter Israel, and supported the peace process.

He reiterated Palestinian eyewitness claims that the crash was an accident. These witnesses say Hajjaj leapt out of the truck with his hands up and without a pistol.

Yusef called for the dismantling of Netzarim, which he said "causes constant problems." He also accused Israel of violating security provisions of the Cairo agreement, conducting searches alone, and not reporting incidents. The latter, he said, included the arrest of two Palestinians who infiltrated the border near Rafiah, a bomb defused near Kfar Darom, and details of the investigation of the alleged truck-bomb stopped near Beersheba last week.

Police Inspector-General Asaf Hefetz said it is still too early to determine whether the incident was an accident or a terror attack, though it likely was the latter.

Speaking to reporters at Soroka Hospital in Beersheba, after visiting the two policemen who were wounded in the incident, Hefetz said: "There are data that indicate it was an attack, but it is possible that it was an accident. 'It is too early to determine what really happened, and we (Continued on Page 19)

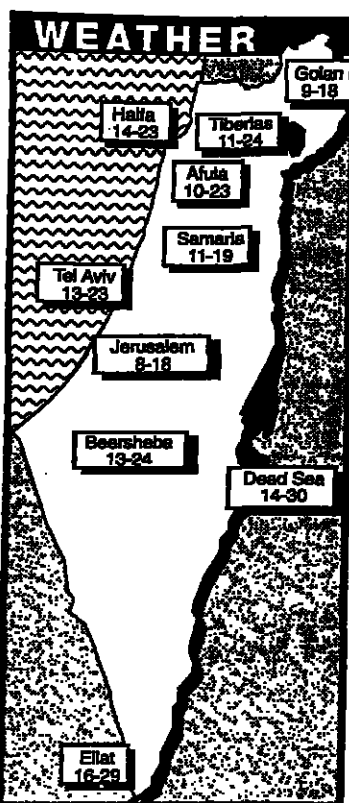
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Rabin, Kohl heal rift over Arad report

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday divulged no details about his sudden trip to Germany on Wednesday to meet with Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Conspicuously absent was any new information on the whereabouts of downed air force navigator Ron Arad.

Rabin confined himself to saying what is generally known, namely that Bonn has been a pivotal go-between in seeking the release of missing Israeli servicemen. The premier termed "nonsensical" an Israel Television report that he flew to Bonn after the chancellor slammed the phone down during a stormy conversation.

"The visit to Germany is the beginning of a new foreign relations policy, whereby we are asked to exchange information with the leaders of countries that work with us, and that is the reason for my brief and substantive visit to Germany," Rabin told reporters at a memorial ceremony for Yigal Allon at Kibbutz Ginossar.

Perhaps as part of this new policy, Bundes-

DAVID MAKOVSKY and ALON PINKAS

wehr Chief of Staff Klaus Naumann arrived here yesterday on a quiet, but official visit. German officials in Bonn told Reuters yesterday that Rabin and Kohl had patched up their differences over a report concerning Bonn's help in seeking missing Israeli soldiers.

The squabble, officials said, was over a story leaked to Germany's *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* newspaper, which said last month Bonn had negotiated on Israel's behalf with Iran for Arad's release.

However, Rabin and Kohl did express wide disagreement over expanding German-Israeli relations, diplomatic sources here said yesterday.

According to the sources, Rabin criticized Bonn's policy of "constructive dialogue" with Iran, saying it legitimized Iran's belligerent policies and weapons buildup. Kohl explained Germany's policy as an attempt to avoid ex-

cluding Iran from the international community and thus pushing it to further extremism. Germany's expanding commercial ties with Iran were also discussed, but the sources said Kohl reminded Rabin the US and Japan have more extensive ties with Iran than Germany.

The German officials said Rabin came to Bonn to "clear the air." In Jerusalem, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee chairman Ori Orr, who had criticized Germany's behavior, agreed.

"The main aim was to clear the air and improve relations with Germany," Orr told Israel Radio.

German government spokesman Peter Hausmann said the talks were part of routine informal contacts.

Rabin thanked the German government for the efforts it has made with various states in the Middle East to determine the fate of missing Israeli soldiers, especially that of Ron Arad. Hausmann said in a statement issued early yesterday.

Mass prayers at Wall mark end of 46-day hunger strike

HERB KEINON

THOUSANDS of people filled the Western Wall plaza yesterday afternoon for a prayer gathering called in light of what organizers termed the country's "deteriorating security situation."

The prayer gathering at the Wall also marked the end of a 46-day hunger strike, begun by Rabbi Menachem Mendel and Gaza Coast Regional Council head Zvi Hendel, to protest the government's handling of the peace process. The gathering also ended a three-day period of fasting and prayer called for by a number of leading national-religious rabbis.

"We did not have any illusions when we started the hunger strike," said Felix, who started the protest 30 days after his daughter Ofra was shot dead by terrorists north of Beit El. "If the government is not moved by the

victims of terror, why should they be moved by this?"

But, Felix said, the hunger strike sent a message to the public that self-sacrifice will be needed to "save Eretz Yisrael. It is not enough to love the land, you must be willing to sacrifice for it."

Felix said that the hunger strike, which was brought to an end by a halachic ruling issued by Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, is the beginning of a civil disobedience campaign that will be waged against the government.

"We are slowly educating the public toward a campaign of civil disobedience," Felix said.

He said he wants people to realize that "not only Arabs can call commercial strikes, and that it is not the worst thing in the world to sit in jail."

Land Day passes without incident

DAVID RUDGE

LAND Day passed quietly yesterday, with no general strike nor any of the disturbances which have characterized the day in the past.

Israeli Arab leaders had decided not to call a general strike so as not to rock the peace process, especially in view of the resumption of talks between Israel and Syria.

Instead, two main rallies were held - in Saknin in the Galilee and Kafr Abu Kaf, north of Beersheba. Hundreds of people took part in a march to the cemetery in Saknin, where a number of those killed in the violent clashes with security forces in the first Land Day demonstrations in 1976 are buried.

A similar procession and memorial service was also held in Kafr Kana, near Nazareth.

The first demonstrations, which ended in rioting and the deaths of six demonstrators and the wounding of dozens of people, marked the first protests by Israeli Arabs against expropriation of their lands.

"We decided this time, in view of the peace with Jordan, the ongoing implementation of the Oslo agreement, and the resumption of the talks with Syria, that it would be inappropriate to call a general strike," said Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the supreme monitoring committee, the highest forum of the Israeli Arab leadership.



Gaza Palestinians dance during Land Day celebrations yesterday.

(Reuters)

seem Suleiman, spokesman for the supreme monitoring committee, the highest forum of the Israeli Arab leadership.

Arab leaders also visited

three unrecognized Arab villages in the Galilee, including Ramiyah near Karmiel, to press the government to solve the problem of existing communi-

ties which have no official status and lack even basic amenities, such as running water, electricity, telephones, and access roads.

22 Jews arrested for Temple Mount prayer bid

BILL HUTMAN

TWENTY-TWO Jewish men and women were arrested yesterday when they tried to force their way onto the Temple Mount and pray there in violation of police regulations.

Thirteen were released last night; the others are to be brought for a remand hearing at Jerusalem Magistrate's Court this morning.

Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. Arye Amit accused the group behind the attempt, the outlawed Kach-associated Hahai Vekayam, with "inciting the atmosphere on the Temple Mount and in the Old City."

The police spokesman said several members of the group attacked a policeman, who was slightly wounded. The group, including eight women, tried to enter the Temple Mount at three gates.

Several were allowed inside, on condition they would not try to pray there. Once inside, however, they began to pray and were immediately arrested. The longstanding police policy, upheld by the High Court of Justice, allows only Moslems to pray on the Temple Mount, for the sake of keeping the peace.

"We had no intention of getting into a fight with police or the Arabs," said Hahai Vekayam spokesman Motti Carpel. "All we want is time to be allocated for Jews to pray on the Temple Mount."

Carpel said Hahai Vekayam - headed by former Jewish underground member Yehuda Etzion, who was imprisoned in the early 1980s for trying to blow up Al-Aksa Mosque - would continue to try to pray on the Temple Mount.

Report: Oman to host Israeli, Arab water trainees

MUSCAT (Reuters) - Oman is to host Israeli and Arab delegates for a course on water resources starting tomorrow, as part of the multilateral talks on Middle East water resources, an official Omani newspaper reported yesterday.

The Omani newspaper quoted a source at the Ministry of Water Resources as saying 20 trainees from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Egypt, Yemen, Israel, and Oman will take part in the 15-day training course in Muscat.

It said the event "reflects [Oman's] efforts in supporting the peace process in the Middle East and the program resulting from the multilateral talks, particularly the water group."

It said the seminar's second phase would be held in the Netherlands, from April 16 to May 4.

Oman last year hosted the Middle East multilateral negotiations on water resources. Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin attended.

Baram: No Palestinian documents for Israeli haj pilgrims

JON IMMANUEL

ISRAEL will not agree to a Saudi demand that Israeli Arabs travel on pilgrimages to Mecca with passports or visas issued through the Palestinian Authority, Interior Minister Uzi Baram said yesterday.

Jamil Tarifi, Palestinian head of the joint liaison committee for civil affairs, said the demand was made by the Saudis, not the Palestinians, apparently because they want to include Israeli Arabs in the Palestinian quota.

Until now Israeli Arab pilgrims used temporary Jordanian passports and were part of the Jordanian quota.

Baram said that Israeli Arab pilgrims would only be allowed to leave with a permit from his ministry, but he would not object to a separate Saudi permit in addition.

An-Nahar, the Jerusalem Arabic daily, said that if Israel refuses to permit the distribution of Palestinian passports, "it will stand accused of obstructing the pilgrimage of thousands of Arab Israelis."

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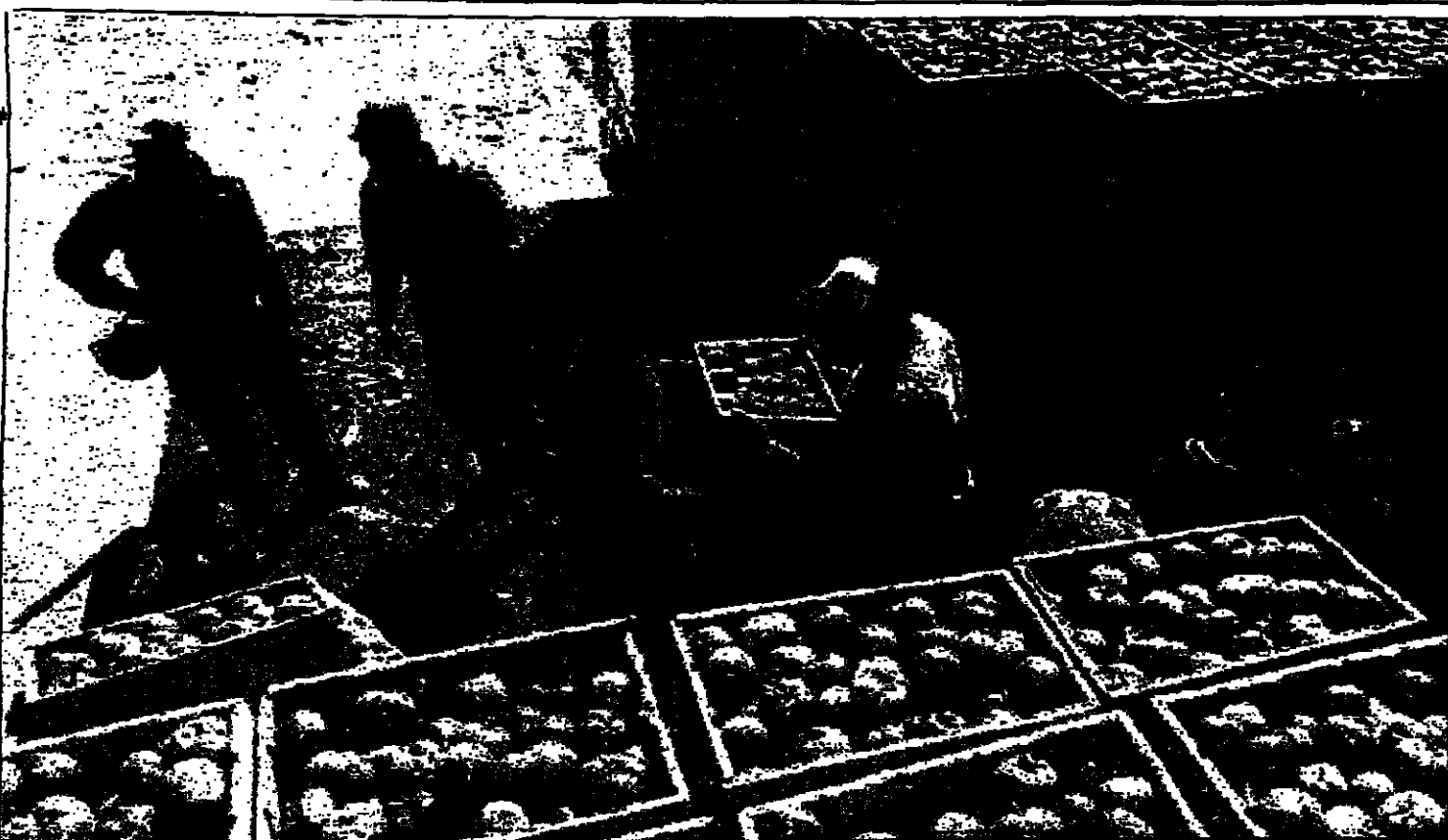
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مركز الفن العربي



Two soldiers checking for contraband watch yesterday as Palestinians remove boxes of tomatoes from a Gaza truck for shipping into Israel on an Israeli truck. The Agriculture Ministry recently uncovered an attempt to smuggle six tons of Palestinian produce into Israel, using bills of lading issued by two Gush Katif farmers. The ministry warned Gaza Coast Regional Council officials it would not tolerate settler cooperation with smugglers. Produce grown in Gush Katif does not undergo quality checks before it enters Israel, so that such cooperation could result in unsafe produce crossing the Green Line. Yesterday the Industry and Trade Ministry asked the Southern Command to permit the shipment of textiles from Gaza to Israel, where factories are suffering shortages. (Reuters)

Sarid to contest Aloni for Meretz leadership

IT'S official - Environment Minister Yossi Sarid is challenging Communications and Science Minister Shulamit Aloni for the Meretz Party leadership.

Sarid made the announcement yesterday at a meeting with political reporters in Tel Aviv. The announcement brings to the surface the hitherto latent tensions between himself and Aloni who founded the Citizens Rights Movement, the lead component of Meretz.

Sarid joined the CRM later, when he left the Labor Party in the late 1980s, and the two have

SARAH HONIG

been at loggerheads almost from that time.

Sarid said that though he had commissioned no opinion polls, "from the polls that I did see, I enjoy quite a considerable lead over Aloni both as far as Meretz voters are concerned and also amongst those who did not identify themselves as Meretz voters or supporters."

Sarid considers himself "able to win the Meretz leadership, but I do not subscribe to the notion that a challenge to the party lead-

er need necessarily mean internecine battles. A democratic contest should not be treated as an unusual move in any party."

Sarid also said he might consider running for prime minister in 1996 if Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin does not run.

Aloni responded later by saying, "What is the point of fomenting pre-election hostilities at a time when the election day is in any case 20 months away?"

As to Sarid's claim that he is ahead of her in opinion polls, Aloni said she had seen no such polls.

Tank thief gets two years in prison

SGT. Amit Nehemia was sentenced yesterday in Jaffa Military Court to two years' imprisonment and two years suspended for stealing an army tank and recklessly driving it along a highway for some 30 kilometers.

The court also suspended his driver's license for seven years and demoted him to private.

ALON PINKAS

Nehemia's lawyer intends to appeal. The IDF, in an internal investigation, had concluded that Nehemia, who pleaded guilty, was abused and humiliated by his commanders at his Ordnance Corps workshop at the Jullis base.

In November 1994, Nehemia took an unarmed tank from the base, near Kiryat Malachi, and drove off. During his escapade, the tank's cannon hit a bus, injuring the driver and several passengers.

Police caught up with the tank near Yavne and following a three-hour talk with a police officer, Nehemia surrendered.

Tel Sheva terror suspects given extended remands

AMIR ROZENBLIT

THE remands of Riyad Sabri, 44, and Issam Rabbah, 22, arrested after a truck from Gaza containing explosives was discovered in Tel Sheva on March 20, were extended by 15 days by Beersheba District Court yesterday.

The two were brought into court with their hands and feet chained and their heads covered by hoods.

Rabbah told his interrogators that his job was to bring two suitcases containing the explosives from Gaza to Tel Sheva. "They told us in the Strip that we had to give these suitcases to people in Tel Sheva," he told them.

Sabri, the truck driver, however, insisted he had no idea there were explosives in the truck. He said he often went to Tel Sheva to buy chickens. "I leave Gaza with empty

coops, and return with them full of hens," he said.

Both said they had been subject to unreasonable physical pressure.

Defense attorney Salah Mahmid said that Sabri had been badly beaten. "When they allowed me to see him," he said, "he didn't look like a human being. He could hardly walk or talk, and said they threatened him."

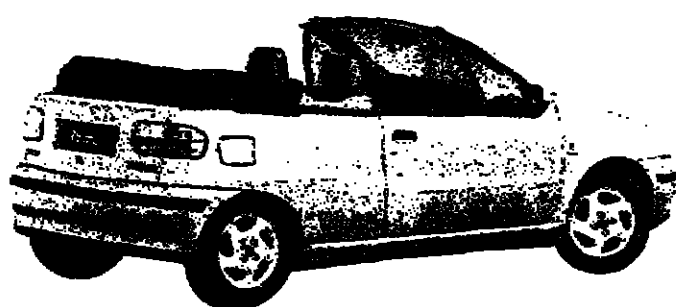
In court, Sabri seemed detached from what was happening, and Judge Yehoshua Pilpel, with the concurrence of the prosecutor, ordered him sent for examination by a neurosurgeon.

Pilpel also told Mahmid that if he had complaints about the methods of interrogation used on his clients, he should bring them to the Southern Region District Attorney's Office.

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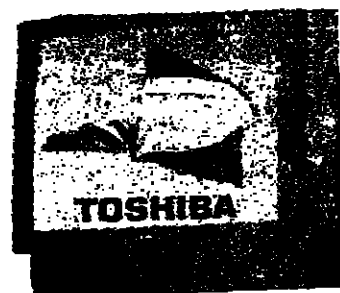
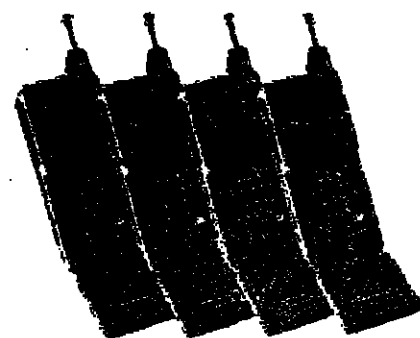


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Peace debate in the US

FRIENDS of Israel in the US Congress can hardly be blamed for being bewildered. Naturally concerned about what they perceive as threats to Israel, they worry about the PLO's refusal to abolish its charter, the increase in terrorist activity since the signing of the Oslo agreement, the growing intensity of Hizbullah attacks in Lebanon, the spread of Islamic militancy and anti-Western terrorism, and the development of non-conventional arms in Iran and Iraq.

And they also worry about the possibility that Congress will be asked to approve sending American troops to the Golan as part of a deal with Syria. Not unreasonably, some of them fear that such a move would be contrary to American national interests, entail American casualties, endanger Israel-US relations, and render Israel more vulnerable than ever.

Accustomed to having such concerns subjected to the kind of public airing only the US affords its legislators, four prominent Congressmen - Dan Burton of Indiana, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida, Christopher Smith of New Jersey, and Doug Bereuter of Nebraska, all chairmen of Committee on International Relations subcommittees - have asked for open hearings by the full committee.

In a letter to committee chairman Benjamin Gilman, they point out that "Despite official denials that an agreement is near, there is much speculation about an outline of an agreement that would entail Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights. Statements by senior Clinton administration officials indicate a predisposition in favor of stationing US troops on the Heights."

"This is a very serious matter which demands close consideration by the US Congress. We would strongly prefer to have such a hearing soon, because we are concerned that if and when a deal is announced between Syria and Israel, it will be too late to consider this issue in a thoughtful manner. The security of a close and loyal ally and the safety of US troops are at stake here."

Such a call for a hearing would have been a routine procedure in Washington. But for the first time in memory, the Israeli government is trying to prevent Israel's friends from doing what they believe will benefit both countries. With tireless zeal, Israeli diplomats and lobbyists have mustered all the resources at their command to thwart the hearings. This leaves Israel's friends in an awkward position. They may want to do what they believe is right, but they are uncomfortable defying official Israeli government entreaties.

Most striking about this unprecedented conflict between Israel and its friends is the government's insufferably patronizing attitude. Its

conduct in Washington recalls Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's recent statement that he intends to do not what the people want, but what they need. It is as if the government believes that when the issues are related to the Middle East, it alone should determine what American Congressmen should discuss.

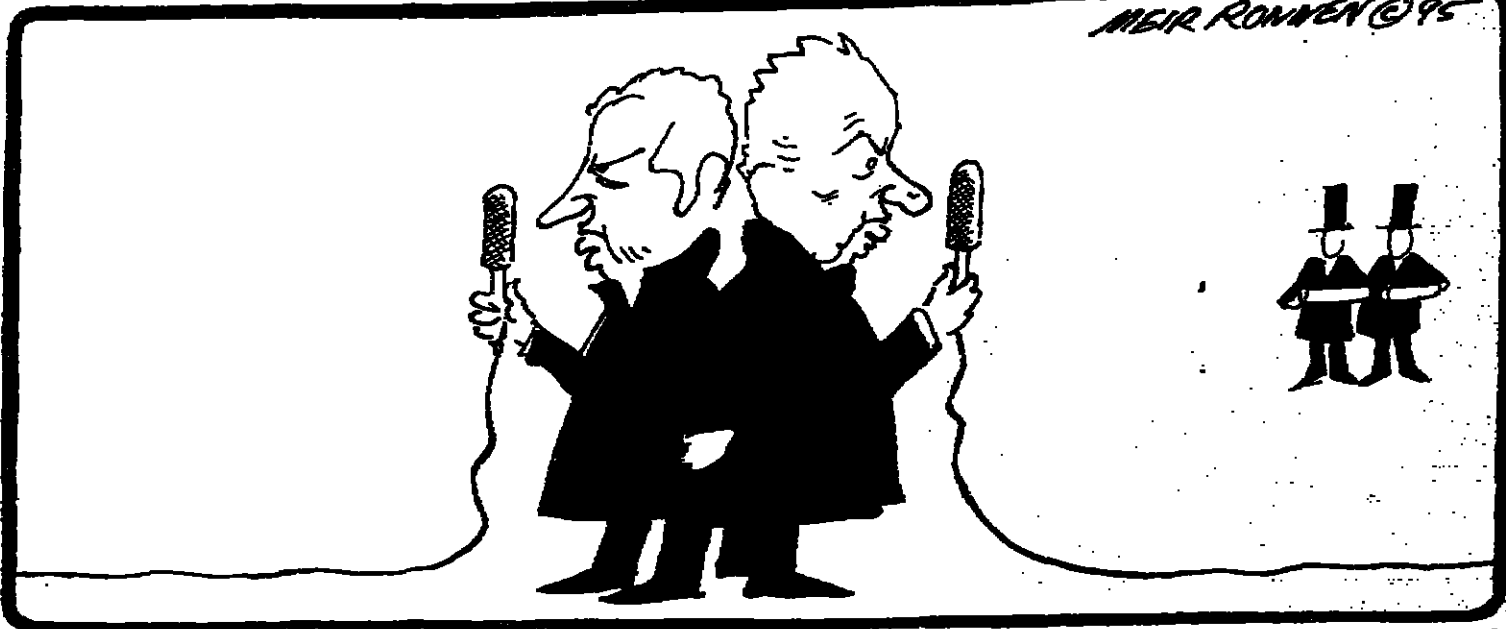
The official Israeli reason for opposing such discussions is that they are premature; that at this stage of the negotiations they can undermine the peace process. But how an American debate on the merits of stationing troops on the Golan can affect the negotiations is an enigma no one has explained. Surely, it would be far more damaging if the debate took place after the deployment of American troops became a component of a settlement, when a Congressional refusal to approve troops would unravel the agreement. And in light of Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin's statement on Wednesday - that a Syrian-Israeli treaty does not depend on the stationing of American troops on the Golan - it is even more difficult to see what harm a debate can do.

Nor is the government's opposition to a debate on the Syrian issue the only example of high-handedness. It also objects to the discussion of the PLO's performance. Beilin has told American Jewish leaders that whether Arafat complies with the Oslo agreement "is not the business of Jewish organizations, not AIPAC's, not the US Congress's... Only Israel will decide when and in what form it will demand of Arafat to behave."

Such a show of splendid independence, not to say hauteur, would be admirable had Israel not begged the US to intervene and help in achieving peace with Syria and the PLO. The lives and treasure involved in stationing American troops on the Golan are American, not Israeli. And the grants Israel has asked the US to make to the PLO come from American taxpayers' pockets, not the Israeli Treasury. By US law, these funds cannot be dispensed unless Congress is convinced of the PLO's compliance with the agreement. To suppose that such funds can be dispensed purely on Israel's say-so, regardless of American opinion of PLO conduct, is to beggar arrogance.

But it is not only the manifestations of arrogance that are disturbing. The government's fierce opposition to a public debate can only raise suspicions that it has something to hide; that it fears an open debate will expose the faulty assumptions which have led to the Oslo agreement and the Palestinians' fundamental violations of the accord, and that it may reveal the reckless security risks the proposed pact with Syria entails.

There can be no better reason to hope that a full-scale debate will indeed be held.



It's back to a cold peace

MOSHE ZAK

THE same day that an Egyptian helicopter carrying Yasser Arafat back to Gaza from Jericho flew a few kilometers north of Jerusalem, Egyptian air traffic controllers announced that they were boycotting the international air traffic controllers' conference being held in the capital.

This isn't the only paradox in current Israeli-Egyptian relations.

At the beginning of the week, representatives of Israel and the Palestinian Authority, meeting to discuss the conditions for elections to the PA council, decided to reconvene in Cairo two days later.

Jericho would have been nearer to home for Foreign Ministry official Yoel Singer and the PA's Saeb Erekat. But instead of concluding the negotiations at that convenient location, they made the long trek to Cairo - to let the Egyptians think that they have a special status in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

This could be taken as confirming a recent report by the London Economist's correspondent in Cairo: "Diplomats from several Moslem countries say Egypt has made clear it will block or veto any initiative [in the peace process] - even one that may be in its own interest - on which it has not been consulted."

The Israeli government has tried to go along with every Egyptian caprice, reporting on the negotiations with the Palestinians and the Syrians. But the harder it tries, the more suspicious Egypt becomes.

As the Economist's correspondent concluded: "Fear that re-

gional peace could diminish Egypt's own role" is the prevailing Egyptian feeling. Egypt wants a monopoly in the field of open relations with Israel, and it wants to use this status to gain the maximum in American economic benefits.

The Egyptians have no inten-

Israelis who talked about integration and economic development sincerely believed that the whole region would benefit, but the Egyptians have increasingly seen such talk as a conspiracy pointing to domination by Israel, economically the strongest power in the region and suspected of

Israel should shed its illusions about Egypt's role in the process

tion of rescinding the peace treaty with Israel, which has earned them at least \$30 billion in American aid and enabled them to supply their army with the latest weapons; but all the evidence suggests that they are signaling other Arab states not to be in any hurry to normalize relations with Israel.

This is the root of the paradox, explaining why, after Israeli and Palestinian representatives met in Jericho and at the Erez checkpoint, they trekked to Cairo to complete their discussions.

This image of Egyptian patronage of the Israeli-Palestinian talks, together with Israel's complaints to Egypt regarding its assistance in the negotiations, has given Egypt needed political credit in the US.

IT IS clear that the vision of a "New Middle East," the talk about "integrating Israel into the Arab League," and, most of all, the efforts to set up regional development bodies have lit up a red light in Cairo.

possessing a nuclear capability. More than 70 years ago, when Pinhas Rutenberg conducted negotiations with the British to acquire a permit for an electricity company, he tried to convince Mussa Kazem Hussein, Faisal Hussein's grandfather, that the project would benefit the Arab residents economically. Replied Mussa Kazem: "We don't want your favors. We prefer a country without electricity to one that has a Jewish-owned electricity system."

Arab suspicions over Israeli plans for regional development prove that our neighbors haven't changed.

It would be far better for Israel to lower its profile and return to separate bilateral discussions (without Egyptian supervision) with each of the Arab parties in the region.

A few months prior to the peace treaty with Jordan, at a joint press conference with Hosni Mubarak, King Hussein announced that he would not sign a separate treaty with Israel. After

the signing, Mubarak complained that the king hadn't told him of his intention to sign the Washington Declaration.

It is highly probable that, under Egyptian patronage or participation, the treaty with Jordan wouldn't have got signed.

Egypt's recent anti-Israel initiatives linked to the signing of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the recent decision by the Arab League's Council of Foreign Ministers opposing the tri-millennial celebrations in Jerusalem, and other Egyptian initiatives are placing a strain on the negotiations with Syria - which are difficult enough already - and blocking Israel's normalization with the Gulf states.

While Israel should avoid any hasty reactions which could lead to an escalation of tensions with Egypt, it would do well to shed some illusions: for example, that Egypt is either able or willing to bring the Arab states to conclude a full peace with Israel.

Egypt isn't doing anything to encourage peace. It does, however, want to have the PA under its thumb, and not only by giving it 1,000 Kalashnikov rifles, as it did last week.

Egypt coined the phrase "cold peace" at the time of the dispute over Tabá - and the ice remained, even after Israel returned the area.

But a cold peace is still peace, and Egypt does want to keep the peace, albeit at a low temperature. Israel should learn to make do with that, and not resort to dangerous dreams.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

The right gives comfort to Hamas

MISHA LOUVISH

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin has a rough tongue, one from which his supporters, as well as his opponents, have sometimes suffered. But his attack on the Likud as "accomplices of Hamas" was not, as Ze'ev B. Begin claimed on this page ("A vital reassessment," March 29), an impotent outburst born of frustration, but a well-founded criticism of the opposition's tactics.

Rabin wasn't merely cursing; nor was he denying the right of the opposition to attack the government's policies. He was denouncing a particular tactic of the right, which, he charges, objectively serves Hamas's aims.

One of the objectives of Moslem fundamentalist terrorism is to undermine the morale of the Israeli public. Another, closely related, objective is to bring about the suspension or - better still, from its point of view - the cessation of the peace process.

Even a reasoned criticism of the government's efforts to reach a compromise with the Palestinians cannot help serving these purposes to some extent; but no one has suggested that this is a reason for the opposition to desist from putting its case. That is part of the price we have to pay for democracy.

But the right, from Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu to the rabid Kahanists, goes far beyond the bounds of rational criticism. Like a vulture, it pounces on every act of terrorism, pinning the responsibility not on the terror-

ists, but on the Israeli government and its peace policy.

It is noteworthy that Mr. Begin, while cogently criticizing the implementation of the Oslo agreement, does not even attempt to justify this practice,

nected with the Islamic attitude to the West in the modern world. These factors exist in Israel, too, but here they are reinforced by implacable opposition to the very existence of a Jewish state in this region.

Rabin's attack on the Likud was a just critique of opposition tactics

which is the target of the prime minister's barbs.

Not only is it obviously welcome to the terrorists, damaging morale and undermining support for the peace process, but it is also totally unfounded and fomented irrational and dangerous passions.

THE OPPOSITION makes great play with the number of casualties since the signing of the Oslo agreement, but it is absurd to suggest that the figures would have been any better if there had been no agreement.

On the contrary, if our soldiers were still patrolling Gaza's refugee camps, they would still be suffering casualties there, and Fatah would be making its "contribution" to the outrages within the Green Line.

Moslem fundamentalism has been growing in Egypt, Algeria, and elsewhere, for reasons con-

In his official letter as chairman of the PLO to Prime Minister Rabin on September 9, 1993, Yasser Arafat recognized "the right of the State of Israel to exist in peace and security" and renounced "the use of terrorism and other acts of violence."

In an article on this page on March 24, Begin alleges that the PLO covenant is "alive and kicking," but the document he quotes is not, as he alleges, a new version of the PLO covenant - that would have been front-page news indeed. As he himself notes, it is a propaganda statement on "Palestinian refugees and the right to return."

Of course, we reject the arguments presented in this statement, but the Oslo agreement does not commit the Palestinians to join the Zionist movement, and it should be noted that there is nothing in the passages Begin quotes which calls for violent ac-

tion of any kind.

On the contrary, this attempt to justify the "right to return," which every Israeli government rejects, is particularly noteworthy, because it does not repeat or endorse the PLO Covenant's support of "armed struggle" as the only way to "liberate Palestine."

The implementation of the Oslo agreement has run into difficulties, from which the Palestinians, as well as the Israelis, have suffered, and it has not put an end to terrorism by the opponents of the agreement.

That is deplorable, but not surprising. It would be childish to expect a century of conflict to come to an abrupt end within a few days or months.

This is, inevitably, a long and complex process: The question is whether we are moving toward peace or, by sabotaging all efforts at compromise, perpetuating the conflict.

The basic cause of Hamas's outrages is the continued existence of the conflict, not the efforts to work for its resolution; the only way it can be resolved, by compromise.

Of course, the right doesn't want to help the Moslem fundamentalists. But by its unscrupulous exploitation of the natural Israeli grief and resentment caused by these outrages, it has been doing just that. And this is what Rabin pointed out.

The writer is a veteran member of the Zionist and Labor movements.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NAGGING THOUGHT

Sir, - As the road from Oslo continues to be strewn with shattered promises, secret deals and terrorism, Jews are divided between those who trust the fulfillment of the promise that the Jewish people will at last be enabled to live in peace, and others who are filled with dread that the promised peace is merely a mirage; that those forces bent on destroying the State of Israel have not deviated from their aim and, instead their goal has become ever closer to realization as the leaders of Israel seem committed to a path of appeasement in the manner of Neville Chamberlain's proclamation of "peace in our time," which precipitated World War II.

Thus, in the Diaspora, Jews are torn between, on the one hand, a sanguine acceptance of all of Israel's actions, including the inevitable difficulties encountered along the way to peace, and on the other hand, despair that the present leaders of Israel are leading their nation inexorably to extinction as more and more of the land is sliced away.

Israelis, too, are divided. To a great many, the very thought of peace for their young, war-weary state is so tantalizing that they must cling to the dream, shutting out any fearful thoughts by immersing themselves in their intimate circle of daily activities and pleasures, while others, especially those whose lives are disrupted by the daily intrusions of politics and terror, are either traumatized to immobilization, or driven by a fierce will to save their homes and their country from destruction.

It is generally understood that only Israelis can decide Israel's fate. Those of us in the Diaspora are merely bystanders. But a nagging thought persists: "standing by" (while wringing our hands) is what we did during World War II as two-thirds of European Jewry were horribly massacred in the only homes they then knew.

HELEN SMOLACK, President, Toronto Zionist Council

CHIROPRACTIC

Sir, - With reference to the letter by David Greenblatt, D.C., former president of the Israel Chiropractic Society (March 21), we wish to contest his claim that "chiropractic is the only effective treatment for mechanical disorders." This statement is untrue and unscientific.

As to Mr. Greenblatt's accusation that Shaare Zedek refuses to acknowledge chiropractic or add it to its treatment, the director of our Department of Orthopedics, Dr. M. Izchak, maintains that he employs only qualified physicians, but he has never refused permission to a patient to try chiropractic elsewhere. He also insists that he has not once been approached in the past two years to include this treatment, so he cannot be accused of "consistently refusing" it. However, we do not recommend it to our patients as we are afraid of the outcome.

We also feel that orthopedists like Dr. David Hendel should be free to give an opinion in their field of expertise when asked, without being subject to insults.

DVORA WAYSMAN, Press Officer, Shaare Zedek Medical Center Jerusalem

NORWOOD 200

Sir, - Norwood Child Care, formerly Jewish Orphanage at Norwood, southeast London, is this year celebrating its 200th anniversary and a number of events have been arranged, one of which is a reunion of Norwood "Old Scholars" in London on May 21.

A number of us are traveling for what should be a very happy day and details can be obtained from me as well as from the Norwood Old Scholars Association (NOSA), an Israel branch of which it is hoped will be formed later this year.

I may be contacted c/o Maurice Singer at 76 Ibn Givrol Street, Tel Aviv, Tel. 03-696-5244.

KENNETH BERG, Netanya

CORRUPTION

Sir, - As a keen student and observer of African affairs, and by the latter I refer to the whole of sub-Saharan Africa, it was really disturbing to read your ethnocentric, shallow and very bigoted editorial ("A tale of two leaders," March 21). African corruption? It is very evident that you are disturbed more by the fact that power is in the hands of non-whites, than the fact that those in power are corrupted by it regardless of race, color or creed. In your very own country, corruption is as endemic as it is visible. Men of faith have robbed the government and their so-called religious movements. Rabbi Shapiro is more corrupt than he is obese. There is no need to get into the Histadrut affair. In nations such as Japan, the US and Italy, corruption exists. So do not try to make a universal phenomenon unique to a particular geographic area, though you would seem to point to a particular racial grouping.

Your premature evaluation of Mandela's cosmetic government gives away your real intention. You praise him for basically maintaining the status quo. And what is the status quo? De-facto apartheid from which Jews and Israelis have profited and will continue to benefit. Mugabe gets a bad grade from you because "he has all but abandoned his friendly attitude to the one million whites among his 10 million people..." You should first check your statistics, because they are more than incorrect. Second, maybe you should think what maintaining the status quo means for the majority of indigenous people.

Maybe you should put yourself in the mind of a destitute African slum dweller before you evaluate developments in Africa, and not the relative of some very well-off and parasitic minority. Do not pine away for your bloody cousin's pool in some posh Johannesburg residential area - think about the poor buggers who clean the pool and the toilets after you use them.

ARIEL KAHANA, Jerusalem

POSTSCRIPTS

FINALLY, A Pessah gift with an Egyptian perspective: chocolate pyramid truffles for the seder table.

A company called Suggestions of Highland Park, New Jersey, advertised these handmade pyramids as "dusted with 24K gold." Strictly kosher and pareve gold, naturally.

The symbols of Jewish affliction cost \$28 per pound.

Ray Bernard

BRITAIN'S BALDNESS supporters club backed Poland's Bald People's Party which staged a hunger strike to win more top jobs for bald people.

"It's time we baldies were giv-

en a chance to shine," club spokesman Iain Parsons said.

He was reacting to reports from Warsaw that the fringe party had started a hunger strike demanding a new constitutional guarantee for bald people.

"In Britain there are no bald people in the cabinet, none that

we know of in the government and the few that do rise to any form of power by becoming members of parliament are immediately the butt of tap-room jokes," Parsons said.

He said he would write to Prime Minister John Major urging him "to show solidarity with our Polish cousins."

مكتبة القدس

The enemy within

ARIEL SHARON

IN peace as in war, difficult decisions have to be made.

In two previous cases, a broad national consensus was required. On the eve of the Six Day War, a national unity government was formed. And it was only with Labor Party support that Menachem Begin was able to sign the Camp David accords, relinquishing the whole of Sinai.

In the absence of any such consensus, there was no chance of achieving all the goals of the Peace for Galilee campaign, since at a certain stage Labor and Peace Now (according to PLO documents recorded in the Knesset minutes of the session of September 22, 1982) became "the last hope" of the terrorist organizations besieged in Beirut.

Those were dark days. During the war of deliverance from the fascist kingdom of terror in Lebanon, the Israeli left tried to bring down the democratically-elected government with mass demonstrations.

If we were a normal people, we would have set up a national unity government or an emergency administration to concentrate on the war against Palestinian terrorism, prevent the creation of irreversible facts by Meretz and its camp followers before the 1996 election and enable us to forge a peace plan supported by a broad consensus.

A united people wouldn't have to grapple with the incessant question: "What if the Arabs don't agree?" If we stood together, the Arabs would have no choice but to agree.

That's how a normal people - one not devoured by baseless fraternal hatreds - would have acted in a difficult, involved situation.

But not us. We destroy and dismantle.

This "government of dismantlers" is working overtime. Day by day, the Jewish grip on the land is weakening. Uniformed Palestinian policemen from Jericho have suddenly begun to appear in Jenin, where the Palestinian secret services are busy liquidating our allies.

In Ramallah there are Palestinian policemen without uniforms. And we are even allowing armed Palestinian security personnel to circulate within the Green Line, in Tel Aviv and Haifa.

IDF strongholds are being abandoned, dismantled, even looted by Palestinian mobs. Above all, the prime minister's pronouncements are intended to isolate Jewish settlers, to question their legitimacy, defame them, and break their spirit.

The government, preparing to withdraw the IDF from Arab population centers in the territories, is hinting at the security problems this will create for the settlers it hates. But this, like its

A normal people would stand together. But we destroy and dismantle

other pronouncements, is untrue. Evacuating the IDF from Palestinian-populated areas will primarily affect the Jewish population in Jerusalem and the center of the country.

These places aren't geared to defend themselves against terrorism; if the IDF quits Kalkilya, life will no longer be normal in Kfar Sava and Petah Tikva. And if it leaves Tulkarm, terror will strike sevenfold in Hadera, Kfar Yona and Netanya.

Those who leave Jenin will find they have intensified terror in the moshavim of the Ta'anach area and Afula. And those who dare to evacuate the IDF from Ramallah and Bethlehem shouldn't expect a day of tranquillity in Jerusalem.

By contrast, the settlers will know how to defend themselves. If the IDF withdraws from the area on government orders, they will stay on, and they won't be alone. Hundreds, even thousands, of volunteers will come to the aid of the 141,000 settlers - of whom 82,000 are children - to join in their self-defense.

And should the government, in agreement with its murderous PLO allies headed by Yasser Arafat, order the IDF to evacuate Hebron, the Jews there, who today number 500, will remain, as volunteers from all over the country stream there.

If Hebron's Jewish Quarter is abandoned by the government, its area will expand; and when there are 5,000 Jews in Hebron, things there will be quiet. The opposition's duty today is to organize these volunteers.

WHEN a Jewish national government arises, its first mission will be to increase the number of Jews in Judea, Samaria and Gaza to half a million. Then the danger of a second Palestinian state, west of the Jordan, will no longer exist. The opposition must prepare detailed plans to settle these people. It mustn't waste any time, not even a day.

When I told the Knesset this week, "This government is against everything that is Jewish," several leftists were riled. But for me, the Jewish cause transcends everything. Israel is the Jewish state; Jerusalem is Jewish, and exclusively Jewish; Hebron is forever Jewish.

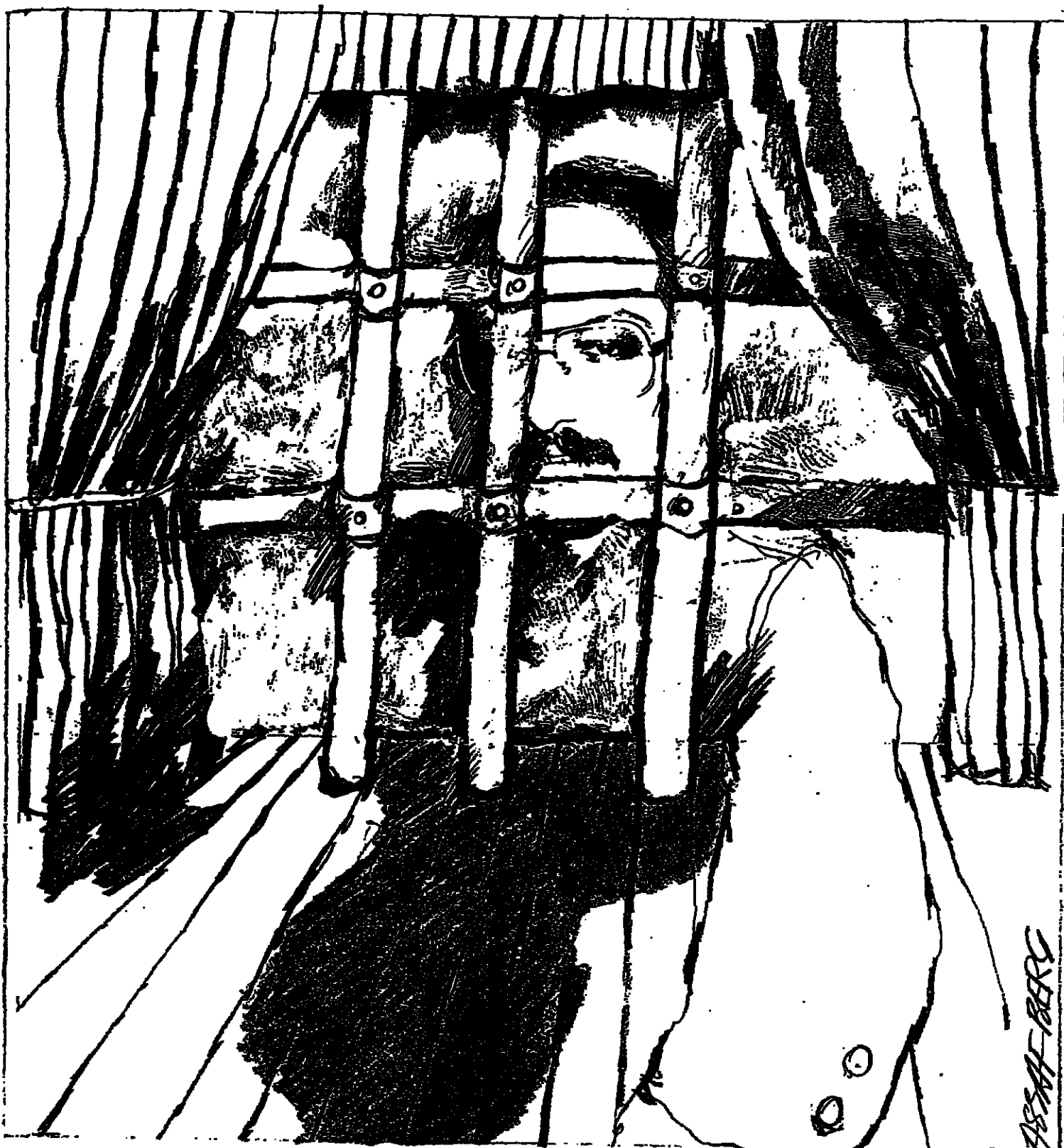
Anyone who aided Arafat in the Lebanon war is anti-Jewish. Those on whose head lies the blood of the 134 Israeli citizens murdered since the Oslo Agreement are anti-Jewish. And those for whom Jericho is "the tomb of Rahab the harlot" (as Shulamit Aloni put it) and the Cave of the Patriarchs "the burial place of an Arab sheikh" are against everything Jewish.

Anyone planning to hand over Beit El and Shiloh is against Jews and Judaism. Those who gave official status to non-Jews on the Temple Mount are anti-Jewish. Whoever proposes granting Israeli funds to the PLO - whose leaders transfer the money to their own bank accounts, or use it for anti-Israel purposes, including incitement of Israel's Arab citizens - is anti-Jewish.

Anyone emotionally closer to the PLO assassins than to the settlers in Hebron, who warmly shakes hands steeped in Jewish blood but turns in disgust from shaking a Jewish hand holding a prayer book in the Machpela Cave, is against everything Jewish. Inciters against Jews, indifferent to their blood being spilled, are anti-Jewish.

Ergo Mr. Sarid and his friends are anti-Jewish, and I am a Jew.

The writer is a Likud MK.



This patriot must come home

ESTHER POLLARD

PLAYWRIGHT Motti Lerner and Tel Aviv's Cameri Theater have recently been accused of damaging my husband's chances for release on parole by staging the play *Pollard - The Patriots*.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Only those who are looking to camouflage their own inaction on this issue criticize Lerner and the play. Jonathan and I are fully aware of the great impact that the play is having on the Israeli public. And we are deeply grateful.

Pollard - The Patriots is playing to packed houses in Tel Aviv, and there has been worldwide press coverage. The play is proving a powerful and eloquent vehicle in our effort to raise public consciousness about a profound personal and national tragedy.

We have no problem with Lerner's largely fictionalized version of events. Any factual attempt to portray the extent of the pain and suffering that has been Jonathan's lot over the last several years is more than any stage could bear.

What is more important to us is that Lerner has succeeded - brilliantly - in bringing his audiences to an almost total identification with the tragedy of Jonathan Pollard. Playgoers come to terms with his painful story, and understand the relevance of Jonathan's tragedy to their own lives, and its meaning in terms of Israel's national honor.

Public response has been overwhelming. Since opening night, Jonathan and I have received thousands of cards and letters.

and an endless outpouring of empathy, encouragement and support.

The Israeli public has taken Jonathan's tragedy very personally, especially since Israel is a nation of soldiers, and most of its citizens devote a large part of their lives to military service.

American administration has consistently interpreted such quiet diplomatic initiatives as an unwillingness on the part of the Israeli government to commit itself fully to securing my husband's release.

We had hoped that this would not be so. After all, "between

port for Jonathan poses a threat to his case. On the contrary. It affords the Israeli government the broad and solid base of public backing it needs to present a strong case to the American administration.

Jonathan and I pray that the Israeli government will seize this golden opportunity to redouble its efforts to secure Jonathan's swift release. It can let the American administration know that the tragedy of Jonathan Pollard isn't just going to disappear, that it has touched the Israelis' hearts.

The Pollard case must be settled now. Time is running out. In May Jonathan Pollard will stand before a parole board. The Cameri Theater has no influence with the board. But the Israeli government has.

Only a renewed and relentless offensive on its part will bring Jonathan Pollard home to the land for which he sacrificed his freedom. Lack of action could leave Jonathan to languish in prison indefinitely.

(By arrangement with Ma'ariv.)

Motti Lerner's play was a godsend for my husband. Now Israel's government has to push for his release

My telephone continues to ring at all hours of the day and night. On the other end of the line are tens and hundreds of Israeli citizens calling to tell of their sympathy for my husband and their prayers for his safe return. Surely this new wave of support would not have reached such dimensions without the powerful stimulus provided by Lerner's play.

Pollard - The Patriots has raised the Pollard case from the depths of national forgetfulness to a place of prominence on the Israeli public agenda. Jonathan both merits and needs public prominence at this time.

PAST EXPERIENCE has proven that keeping a low profile and relying on quiet diplomacy in order to free Jonathan is doomed to fail every time.

For the past 10 years, the

Electronic Grand Inquisitor

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

ELYAKIM Rubinstein has made an important contribution to public ethics by his principled refusal to undergo a lie-detector test.

Such tests are now being demanded of all senior personnel in the defense establishment. Their purported objective is to ensure credibility.

Rubinstein headed Israel's delegation to the peace talks in Washington on the Jordanian-Palestinian track, under both Yitzhak Shamir and Yitzhak Rabin, and is considered the principal architect of the peace agreement with Jordan. He reportedly turned down the job of ambassador to Jordan to continue in his present role, whose official title is legal counsel to the defense system and aide to the prime minister.

Conventionally, the polygraph, or lie-detector, is not considered an instrument for judging character. What exactly would the defense establishment security officers be testing? Whether senior defense officials can keep their blood pressure down and their pulse-rate normal, even when they are lying?

Since there would be no specific subject of investigation, the investigator would have to decide for himself what is relevant. Past political affiliations, to weed out a potential Israel Bet, the security adviser to David Ben-Gurion who later proved to have a Soviet connection? Foreign currency dealings, to unearth a potential Rami Dotan, the air force procurement officer who skimmed off American aid funds? Or perhaps sexual preference or marital fidelity?

The point is that the range of possible avenues of investigation is unlimited. So is the possible infringement of basic human rights and privacy.

Presumably, no defense establishment employee should be asked a question as part of a lie-detector test that would be improper if asked when he wasn't connected to electrodes that measured his physiological responses.

The issue isn't abuse by the employment of lie-detector tests, but rather the abuse of lie-detector tests by imposing on them functions which they are unsuited

to perform.

Lie-detector tests are no substitute for trust. They might well serve as a means of destroying any trust that may exist.

COULD SENIOR civil servants be under a cloud of suspicion heavy enough to warrant their submission to lie-detector tests,

Lie-detector tests are no substitute for trust

but not serious enough to require their transfer, suspension, or dismissal? The answer, evidently, is that they are under no suspicion whatsoever. However, it is just as clear that they aren't completely trusted, either.

Distrust goes to the very top. In Britain in the '60s, when John Profumo, minister of state for war in the Macmillan cabinet, was suspected of a serious security breach, he denied any wrongdoing in a statement to the House of Commons. When the press uncovered incriminating evidence against him, the shock was not over his adultery and the security breach it involved, but rather in his violation of the trust of the House of Commons.

According to press reports, Transport Minister Yisrael Kesser will undergo police questioning in connection with the Histadrut scandals. Questions have been put to the minister of police on the subject. However, Kesser has made no statement in the Knesset, nor apparently has he been asked a parliamentary question by any MK. Is there less trust

in what a minister says on the floor of the Knesset than in what he tells police investigators?

The contrast with the public norms of the pre-state Jewish community could hardly be more striking. The accepted ethic then was the *shlichut*, the public mission, backed by the potent sanction of public opinion.

In 1927, Histadrut employees were found to have received salary benefits in violation of the prevailing egalitarian standards. Ben-Gurion refused to publish the identity of the wrongdoers, arguing that, if exposed, they would have no alternative but to leave the country.

There is still public trust of a sort, but its object has shifted. It no longer applies to public servants, as such, certainly not if they are perceived as politicians. Nor does it apply to governmental institutions, to the extent that they are perceived as political. Instead, it is lavished on gadgetry. There is no gut rejection of the Grand Inquisitor, if he wears an electronic mask.

In refusing to submit to a lie-detector test as a condition for continued service in the defense establishment, Rubinstein is acting in character. With the formation of the Rabin government, he gave up a chance to move into the Justice Ministry, where he could have advanced his well-known ambition for an appointment to the Supreme Court. Instead, he chose to remain where he thought he could make the greatest contribution for peace.

For Rubinstein, at least, public employment remains a public mission.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

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The unveiling of a family monument and a memorial service for our dearest

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née Lookstein

beloved wife of **Prof. DANIEL BURMAN** ז"ל

will be held at the family grave site
at Har Hamenuhot Cemetery on
Thursday, April 6, 1995 (8 Nissan 5755) at 5:00 p.m.

We shall meet at the entrance
to the cemetery at 4:45 p.m.

The Burman, Krause, Meital-Ring Families
Tel. 02-734101



The Bikur Cholim Hospital, Jerusalem

announces with deep sorrow
the passing of its dear friend,

IRENE SONNENSCHNEIN

beloved mother of **Eva and Alexander Heiden**
of Antwerp.

The coffin was flown in from Antwerp, Belgium.
The funeral will take place today, March 31, at 11 a.m.
at the Sanhedria Cemetery, Jerusalem.



The doctors, nurses and staff of the

**Heiden Department of Cardiology of
Bikur Cholim Hospital, Jerusalem**

convey deep sympathy to

Eva and Alexander Heiden

on the passing of their beloved mother,

IRENE SONNENSCHNEIN

Budapest - New York - Antwerp

May you be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.



Hadassah Medical Organization

Memorial Service for the

**Fallen of the Hadassah Mt. Scopus
Convoy, 1948**

The annual memorial service will take place on

Tuesday, April 4, 1995 (4 Nissan 5755)

at 10:30 a.m. at the Memorial Garden,

Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical Center,

Mt. Scopus, Jerusalem.

Relatives and friends of the fallen who are in possession
of written material, photographs, etc. about the convoy,
are asked to bring them to the ceremony or to send them
by mail, so that they may be included in a permanent
exhibition which is being set up at the hospital.

The Board of Directors and
the Staff of the Mandel Institute
mourn the untimely passing of

Prof. JAMES S. COLEMAN

world renowned scholar,

teacher and close friend,

member of our Academic Board

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family

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Annette Hochstein: Director

A year has gone by since the passing of our beloved
husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather

Prof. JOSEPH M. YOFFEY

We will meet at his grave to honor his memory,
on Tuesday, April 4 (Nissan 4) at 11 a.m.

Family and friends will assemble at the entrance to
the Sanhedria Cemetery at 10:45 a.m.

The Family

Our beloved

KALMAN KEET

is no more.

The funeral will take place today,
Friday, March 31, 1995 (11 Adar 29, 5755) at 11:30 a.m.
at the Kiryat Shaul Cemetery.

Mourned by:

His wife, Naama Keet

His daughter and son-in-law, Edna and Daniel Saadon

His son and daughter-in-law, Gideon and Etty Keet

Grandchildren, Roee, Roni, Yael, Adi, Oded and Rotem

Unknown attacker shoots Japan's police chief

TOKYO (Reuters) A masked gunman yesterday shot and seriously wounded Japan's national police chief, the man leading the investigation into last week's nerve gas attacks on the Tokyo subway.

The attacker fired at least four bullets into Takaji Kunimatsu, director-general of the National Police Agency, outside his Tokyo home, then fled on a bicycle, police said.

Kunimatsu, 57, was still in serious condition after surgeons at a nearby hospital removed one bullet from his stomach, but doctors said his life was not in danger.

No one claimed responsibility, but news reports said police suspected either gangsters or the religious sect being investigated for the gas attacks carried out the attack.

As Japan's top policeman, Kunimatsu was leading a probe of a doomsday cult, for evidence it was involved in the nerve-gas attack which killed 10 people and injured thousands.

He was shot as police in gas masks and riot gear began a ninth day of searches of the Aum Shinri Kyo (Supreme Truth) sect's sprawling complex of the at the

foot of Mt. Fuji.

They have turned up hundreds of tons of lethal chemicals, including all the ingredients of sarin, the gas used in the subway attack.

The secretive cult has denied having anything to do with the nerve gas attacks and said yesterday it was not involved in the assassination attempt on Kunimatsu.

Aum Shinri Kyo has absolutely nothing to do with this incident," it said in a statement. However, the Jiji news service said that about one hour after the

shooting, unidentified callers told two major TV networks the attempt was carried out on behalf of the sect, and that other senior officials were on a hit list.

"Listen carefully," it quoted a caller as telling Nippon Television. "I will tell you only once - the Aum Shinri Kyo shot Kunimatsu."

A call to TV Asahi threatened other senior officials unless the investigation of the sect was halted, it said.

But gangsters were also under suspicion. Since he took office in July last year, Kunimatsu has

been leading a crackdown on organized crime.

Coming on the heels of last week's nightmarish subway nerve gas killings, the shooting stunned Japan, a country that has placed great trust in its 260,000-strong police force to keep it one of the world's most crime-free nations.

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama was visibly shocked by the assassination attempt. "We will not forgive this most dastardly of crimes. We had long believed that Japan was a safe country, unlike other countries in the world," he said.

Turkey defends push into northern Iraq

ANKARA (Reuters) - Turkey went on the diplomatic offensive yesterday to back its incursion into Iraq, dispatching its new foreign minister on a tour of Western capitals and blasting traditional ally Germany.

At the same time, up to 15,000 Turkish troops poured into rugged Tunceli province for an offensive against Kurdish guerrillas on the same scale as the anti-rebel drive in north Iraq, army officials said.

Convoys of military vehicles blocked the roads in and around the eastern province for an expected assault on well-entrenched Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) positions there.

Turkey launched a huge offensive on the PKK in Tunceli over the winter, but the military later acknowledged few results.

Troops, including airborne units and special forces, backed by long-range artillery have been converging on the province from other parts of the country for the last three days.

Stung by criticism of its 11-day push into northern Iraq, Ankara lashed out at Bonn's decision to halt military shipments, accusing it of breaking NATO ranks.

Foreign Minister Erdal Inonu, in the job just four days, an-

nounced he would leave soon for the US and Europe to address fears Turkey's 35,000-strong force would remain in Iraq for long.

Ankara says the military push is needed to root out PKK rebels who use Iraqi bases to strike inside Turkey.

But its Western trade partners and allies fear for the safety of Kurdish civilians and refugees in the north. Paris has also questioned the legality of the operation, conducted inside another sovereign state.

"Contrary to false reports and misunderstandings, the duration and scope of the operation is limited. As soon as PKK camps and facilities in the region have been eliminated, our troops will withdraw," Inonu said.

Early signs suggested Inonu would find it tough going.

France, president of the European Union, said yesterday the EU may consider imposing an arms embargo on Turkey.

Despite some soothing comments from Inonu, his ministry issued a statement charging Germany with breaking the spirit of the NATO alliance by holding back a planned shipment of military equipment in protest at the incursion.



Thousands of Rwandan refugees, who have been in camps in Burundi since July 1994, flee yesterday toward the Tanzanian border. The refugees fear for their lives after several camps have come under attack from the Burundian Army. (Reuters)

UN sanctions on Libya unchanged

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) - The Security Council, after a periodic review, made no changes yesterday to sanctions imposed on Libya for failing to surrender for trial in Britain or the US two men wanted in connection with the 1988 bombing of Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

But US ambassador Madeleine Albright called on fellow council members to "consider tougher economic sanctions, including an oil embargo," and said the US was strengthening its own unilateral sanctions against Libya.

She said it would review its licensing policies on the re-export

of U.S. goods already on the UN list of items barred to Libya, and would "request that all US companies ask their foreign-based subsidiaries to cease all trade with Libya."

The White House said on Monday it would try to win support among council members for tougher measures against Libya, including an oil ban, although there has been little backing in the past for such action.

Several European countries, including Germany, Italy and Spain, are importers of Libyan oil.

A total of 270 people, includ-

ing all 259 aboard and 11 on the ground, were killed in the Lockerbie disaster.

The existing sanctions, which went into effect in April 1992 and are reviewed every 120 days, include an air embargo, a ban on the sale or transfer of arms to Libya and the downgrading of diplomatic links with that country.

Additional sanctions became effective in December 1993, including a freeze on some Libyan assets abroad and a ban on its import of certain types of equipment used at oil transport terminals and in refineries.

'US military's policy on gays violates free speech'

NEW YORK (AP) - A federal judge yesterday ruled against the Clinton administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military, saying it is discriminatory and violates free speech rights.

US District Judge Eugene Nickerson issued his ruling on a suit brought by six homosexual US service members who challenged the policy, which calls for the honorable discharge of service members who go public with their homosexuality.

"The policy of the act is not only inherently deceptive, it also offers powerful inducements to homosexuals to lie," he said in a 39-page ruling, the first issued on the two-year-old policy.

Pentagon officials had no immediate comment, but said they expected one would be issued later. Before the ruling, both sides' lawyers said they expected the case to be appealed, possibly all the way to the US Supreme Court.

Republican Sen. Arlen Specter joins race for president

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Moderate Republican Senator Arlen Specter formally launched his Republican presidential candidacy yesterday with an attack on the "intolerant right" wing of his party, whose policies, he said, could help elect President Bill Clinton.

Specter, 65 - with a pro-abortion, pro-gay rights and a liberal stance on social issues - is the most mainstream candidate of the current field of those vying for the Republican nomination to challenge Clinton in 1996.

"Today I offer my ideas, my experience and my energy to the American people, to lead our great nation into the 21st century as the next president of the United States," the Pennsylvania senator said, in a prepared address announcing his candidacy.

France accuses Russia of ignoring EU on Chechnya

PARIS (Reuters) - France yesterday accused Russia of failing to take any notice of European Union calls for an end to its military crackdown in Chechnya.

Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, who led the "troika" of past, present, and future presidents of the EU's Council of Ministers to Moscow this month, said in a statement: "The European troika's message has not been put into effect on any point."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Richard Duche said Moscow had failed to cooperate with the Organization for Security and

Cooperation in Europe, blocked humanitarian aid and stepped up military operations in defiance of EU calls for a cease-fire.

The statement came shortly before Russian authorities announced that their troops had captured Gudermes, the biggest remaining stronghold held by rebel Chechen separatists.

A senior French official said the EU should tell Moscow clearly it must reverse its policy in Chechnya before the 15-nation bloc will sign a key interim trade agreement frozen last month in a gesture of protest.

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1995 The Jerusalem Post
s police chief

News in Focus

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1995

A balanced book and hopes for a balanced peace

Abdul Karim Kabariti, Jordan's foreign minister since January, tells Hillel Kuttler the 'Jordanian in the street' has yet to enjoy peace benefits

The big issue during King Hussein's visit here this week was the \$275-million allocation for Jordanian debt relief, which Congress has not yet signed off on. How do you view progress toward its approval?

I'm very satisfied with the way it's being handled right now. We had the impression that we were caught in the middle of a partisan feud between the Republicans and the Democrats, and our debt-relief program was about to be the victim of this dispute.

However, I think things have been sorted out with the Congress and the administration, and [Tuesday] we were given the impression that the debt relief will be done in a way that will be very satisfactory for both [sides], Jordan and the Congress.... But the full amount will be granted.

Has Congress not been forthcoming on President Clinton's pledge to King Hussein to wipe out the debt, or was it a misunderstanding between the two branches?

This is exactly the word that they use, that there has been some kind of misunderstanding between Congress and the administration. And [on Capitol Hill] they denied the accusations that were [made] against them that they were insensitive to Jordanian needs and to the significance and importance of debt relief to Jordan.

How important an issue is this to Jordan?

Symbolically, the administration, being a partner in peacemaking, should... really deliver on these promises or understandings for the peace process to continue, because we feel Jordan could be an example, a model that could induce others or could in fact make it hard for them to take the risks, or if I may be picky in my words, take the leap to make peace.

Are you referring to the benefits Syria may be seeking?

I'm not talking only materially. I'm talking about the commitment of the international community of showing the interest not only of signing the treaties and letting go but also in keeping

the peace and building it to have really something to endure. King Hussein stressed the need to bring home the benefits of peace to the "person in the street." Has the average Jordanian enjoyed the benefits yet?

Definitely not yet. There are high expectations, high hopes, as you may call it, [for] the fruits of peace. For the Jordanian public, it was taken for granted that once the government signed the peace treaty with the Israelis, things would be much better and would reflect positively for their well-being.

As time passes, they feel nothing has materialized. Talking about only debt relief and mega-projects, something like the Jordan Rift Valley projects, doesn't really relate to their well-being and their expectations.

The questions are pending as far as how much peace will contribute to alleviating the daily pressures, the daily job opportunities, lowering the poverty levels in Jordan and improving the standard of living.... We need to know that the international community is really forthcoming....

How do you evaluate Israeli-Jordanian relations in the five months since the treaty was signed?

Again, we will have to differentiate and distinguish between the official commitment and the popular feeling toward that peace treaty. Officially, on the government side, definitely we were fully committed and we are negotiating in good faith and in earnest to implement fully all the agreements that came with the treaty.

Now if we are to talk about the general mood, the general feeling toward the peace treaty, I guess there is that large chunk of public opinion who supported the peace treaty on the basis of wait and see. And this portion of the population are the people who are now leaning toward taking away their support. The support for the peace treaty is slipping away from among this group of people because they think it did not really bring with it the expectations and the dividends they were expecting.

How much of a concern is that to you?



I'm very much concerned, because in the final analysis, for peace to be durable and sustained, the popular support is very much needed. Next month the international community will meet in New York about extending the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. What is Jordan's position on the extension?

We are the country that has the longest border with Israel, and your nuclear facilities - if I may use the expression, the most notorious one, in Dimona - is very close, it's only 20 miles [32 km.] away from a Jordanian city, Tafila. Especially when you talk about a potentially Chernobyl-like incident, any kind of leakage or proliferation will definitely affect us environmentally and threaten the well-being and the health of the area.

maybe by the International Atomic Energy Agency. And that's why we are very much for the NPT agreement, very much for its objectives.

Does that mean that you have decided that you will sign the extension?

We haven't decided yet, to tell you the truth. We've been discussing this issue with the Arab countries and the nonaligned countries.

Last week's Arab League resolution in Cairo seemed to leave some room for a resolution.

Room was there.... [The conflict] somehow brought into the picture the idea of Israel as wanting detente rather than peace in the area - detente in the sense of being engaged diplomatically with all the Arab countries, backed by an overwhelming force and exercising supremacy and exercising lordship rather than partnership.

What about Egypt's role in pressing the issue?

I find the Egyptian position very accommodating and forthcoming.... They are for the objectives of the treaty, but they want to know, also, how and when Israel could also be part of that treaty to give the sense that the area will not come under any Israeli nuclear umbrella that we all reject.

How much of a problem for Jordan has the Syrian opposition to the treaty with Israel been?

It is a problem in the sense that we in Jordan would like to maintain a special and privileged relationship with Syria....

[But] we felt immediately after the Oslo agreement that if we are to wait any longer, then the best interest of Jordan would not really be served.... I think that the Syrians are committed to peace. Once the Israelis make it clear that they are willing to make peace with Syria based on all the land for all the peace, I think the Syrians will go along.

How do Egyptian-Jordanian relations stand after Cairo complained it was bypassed in your agreement with Israel?

Our relationship with Egypt is very strong, and cooperation and coordination are at a very good level. We feel that the Egyptian role in the area and in the furthering of the cause of peace has been earned by the Egyptians by the fact that they are the largest country, they were the first to sign a peace treaty with Israel and they have always been a moderating influence in the area in the last 20 years or so.

What about your relations with Saudi Arabia, which took a hit since Jordan supported Iraq in the Gulf War?

There's not much that could be said right now. It's normal. Our ambassador has taken up his post in Riyadh. We are very keen to improve the relations and will not spare any effort to better the relationship with the Saudis.

Shimon Peres has stated that Israel would consider joining the NPT only after it reaches a comprehensive peace that includes Iran, Iraq and Libya.

I have discussed this with Mr. Peres when he brought up the subject. You cannot manufacture a monster for you to be able to have a role in the area. And if we are to keep pumping up the Iranian threat out of proportion, then we will be playing with fire. In the final analysis, the Iranian nuclear facilities are under international inspection, and they are a member of the treaty.

Maybe that could be a good reason for the Israelis to join, to allay the fears of the people of the area - and if they want to cheat, this is up to them to do it if they feel that the Iranians are cheating.

Israel maintains that it is exactly the law in the NPT, because Iran is a signatory yet can acquire nuclear components legally.

I personally think also that the Israelis are cheating when they say 'We will not be the first country to introduce nuclear weapons into the area' - which means they do have the capability. I feel that apparently the Israelis do have it and do intend to use it as a deterrent in the area and use it also as a way to exercise their supremacy....

We are very much for good neighborly relations with the Israelis, we are very much for having them for friends and even having them as partners for the development of the area. And again, it seems to me whenever the Israelis talk about peace, they talk about Israeli peace, and when we talk about peace, we talk about comprehensive, just, durable peace.

What is your vision of a Middle East at peace?

This perception of seeing Israel as greedy, that they want everything and they don't want to give anything, should be addressed in a way that the people of the area - and I'm not talking about the Jordanian people, I'm talking about the Arab side in general - should feel that the Israelis do really have an interest to live in the area as part of the area, not as a threatened group of people who will have to maintain some kind of super capability for them to be able to exercise supremacy over the Arab countries.

Jordan's first ambassador to Israel: Profile in civility

Marwan Muasher's demeanor and honesty make him the right man to fill Amman's newest diplomatic post, Hillel Kuttler reports from Washington

FOR journalists covering the peace talks in Washington since the 1991 Madrid conference, Jordan provided a breath of fresh air.

On the other fronts, Syrian spokeswoman Bushra Kanafani tried to bar Israeli reporters from her briefings. Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi spewed gloom-and-doom, Lebanon's delegation was invisible and Israel's seemed like a traveling circus of spin doctors.

All the while, Jordan's Marwan Muasher calmly presented his country's views and dealt politely with all reporters.

Many observers in Washington believe that demeanor will make Muasher, 38, an ideal first ambassador from the Hashemite Kingdom. He arrives in Israel next week and will present his credentials to President Ezer Weizman on April 10 - the same day Shimon Shamir presents his to King Hussein in Amman.

Muasher was held in high regard for "not lying, providing objective information about his country, establishing very good credibility with journalists, American and Arab," said Mohammed Wahby, a correspondent for Egypt's *Al-Musawwar* weekly magazine.

"He was respected here because he was not very rhetorical, which is not very common among Arab spokesmen."

Muasher first came under the gaze of the public a year before the peace talks, when he headed his embassy's Jordan Information Bureau. No sooner did he arrive in Washington than Iraq invaded Kuwait, when Amman sided with Baghdad, when Muasher found himself in the hot seat.

"When the whole world was coming down on Jordan because of its behavior in the Gulf war, Marwan was able to articulate Jordan's position," said political

consultant Jonathan Kessler.

ASK PEOPLE their views of the new ambassador, and they refer to his professionalism, civility and accessibility. He is considered a consummate gentleman.

Dr. David Landgrebe, a professor of electrical engineering at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, supervised Muasher's doctoral thesis. Landgrebe recalls his student as "a very personable individual, very sound.... He has a very high standard. It's very hard imagining him doing anything untoward," said Landgrebe, who noted that he still exchanges Christmas cards with Muasher.

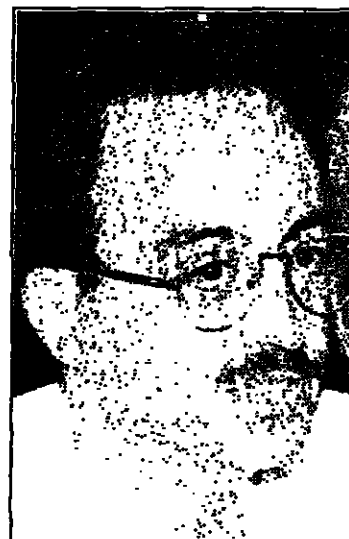
In the four years he directed the information bureau, Muasher made himself available to Israeli journalists and Jewish community representatives, even before developments in the peace process dictated such a move.

The office "was open to those of us who track these issues," said B'nai B'rith International spokesman Dan Mariaschin. "We wanted to learn more about Jordan, and at a time of a thaw, his was a voice that contributed to that thaw."

"If he's there [in Israel] to convey and hear positions, then based on what we saw here, that's promising. The sense is he's hearing what you're saying, which is important [for an] ambassador."

MUASHER SEES his role in Tel Aviv as twofold: to help build on the five-month-old peace treaty and to bring to Israelis an understanding of Jordan.

"This is an era of peacemaking. A lot of people think that just because we agreed on a peace treaty with Israel, the problems are over. This is wrong. The problems are just beginning: to translate a peace between governments to a peace between



Muasher: The problem is to translate a peace between governments to a peace between peoples. (AP)

peoples," he said this week during a break in King Hussein's visit, which he had helped arrange. "We still have divergent views [with Israel] on issues such as Jerusalem, refugees and settlements. Though Jordan is not directly involved in settling these, Jordan still has a point of view."

Muasher said he intends "to articulate views to Israelis to help them better understand where we're coming from. There has to be a recognition in Israel that signing a peace treaty with Jordan will not alone bring peace to the region. It depends on progress on the other tracks, particularly the Palestinian track."

Muasher conceded that the two countries have a long way to go to really understand one another, which is where his other role comes in.

"We do not know much about Israeli society, and I suspect Israelis do not know much about us, so it is a learning experience in a lot of ways."

Muasher's background didn't point toward diplomacy. He is a member of a prominent Christian family in Salt, about 20 kilometers west of Amman, and boasts a cousin in the Jordanian Senate and two other relatives in the National Assembly. He earned three engineering degrees at Purdue and was poised to enter the family business, the Jordan Sul-

fur Chemicals Company.

But he eventually became bored in the field and started writing political columns for *The Jordan Times*. He was then tabbed to run an information center at the Planning Ministry, and that job led to Washington. Muasher served in the US for four years before returning to Jordan upon his father's death to run the company.

No sooner had Muasher returned to the private sector than he was yanked back into the peace process.

When the Israeli-Jordanian negotiations shifted to the region last summer, Muasher became his country's spokesman once again. He was reunited with Yossi Gal, his counterpart when Israel's talks with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation were held.

Gal, who starts this summer as ambassador to Holland, said he and Muasher picked up where they had left off in Washington.

"Things were always done in a businesslike way," said Gal. "It interested me what the Jordanian newspapers wrote, and him what the Israeli newspapers wrote, so we each brought the papers and swapped the news."

In Washington, "from the first day, we had fair and professional working relations. There was lots of mutual respect and cooperation between him and me. Before each press conference we let each other know, generally, what we'd be saying, so as not to surprise the other."

"When talks moved to the region, we had joint press conferences. It reflected the atmosphere of the negotiations and also the person."

Muasher's work throughout the peace process culminated fittingly when he served - along with Israel TV's Haim Yavin - as master of ceremonies at October's treaty-signing in the Arava. Observers see Muasher as the embodiment of the new thinking that promises to engender a warm peace.

"Marwan is a next-generation Jordanian. He's already operating in the 21st century in his professional life, in his understanding of the issues, in the way he deals with people and represents the kingdom," said Rob Sattoff, director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and an

expert on the Hashemites.

"If there is something in Hebrew known as *Yisrael hayafa* [beautiful Israel], he represents *Yarden hayafa* [beautiful Jordan]."

"It's not as though the Jordanians are sending a military general, an old-line politico. I think [he's] typical of the new breed."

Muasher has visited Israel just once, a few weeks ago when he inspected possible residences. A House of Representatives Inter-

national Relations Committee

staffer said that when the two caught up here recently, Muasher expressed shock at the prices of homes in Herzliya Pituah.

Muasher plans to rent a place for himself, his wife Lynn and their two young children.

With great timing, the couple's daughter Hana was born in September 1993 on the day Israel and Jordan took their first major step toward conciliation by signing an agenda for negotiating their

eventual treaty.

"It was a moving experience. I had to be in both places at once," Muasher said of running back and forth to a suburban hospital the previous night, following the signing of the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles.

"My child is doing well. If there is any symbolism to be drawn, it is that we must work to expand the peace between our children. The transition is not going to be smooth and easy."

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Israel's Beduin: Divided they stand, on the fringes

Known for their skills as army scouts and smugglers, the Beduin live on the edge of Israeli society. Their ambiguous existence was highlighted by the discovery of a truck laden with explosives in Tel Sheva. Jon Immanuel reports on the mood in the township

THE Beduin have always had an ambiguous existence on the fringes of Israeli society, first as desert nomads boxed in by narrow borders and military firing ranges, then as first-generation town dwellers with tents parked on the front lawn.

Jewish Israelis see them as an enigma. They are the soldiers whose expertise as scouts on the country's frontiers cannot be duplicated by non-Beduin. But they are also the smugglers who use the same skills to turn a buck by bringing infiltrators and contraband across borders.

Little is known of what these people, the purest and most enigmatic of all Arabs, think. For example, loyalty is a very important concept to the Beduin. But which loyalties come first? During the last two weeks, the loyalty to Israel of 9,000 Tel Sheva Beduin was in doubt because of the explosive-laden truck that crashed into one side of the scale. Only when the army itself ridiculed the police claim of a massive suicide bomb and the police released the one Tel Sheva suspect from jail did the scale again tip in their favor.

But for a while it was hell. Before dawn on March 21, several hours after the bomb was found, hundreds of troops and police converged on the township, waking children, searching houses. "I saw them crowding outside the mosque during dawn prayers. They brought dogs. They searched house to house. Children woke up and began to cry," said Halil Elbaz, the muezzin.

Tsomet MK Pini Badash, who heads the town council of nearby Omer, lost no time in accusing Beduin of being Hamas collaborators. His accusation, which several Beduin raised independently in conversation, was especially hurtful because relations between Omer and Tel Sheva had been cordial until then. Tel Sheva achieved local council status with Omer's encouragement in 1993 after winning a petition to the High Court of Justice.

Khader al-Sheikh, who runs one of the few industrial enterprises in Tel Sheva, does not deny that Beduin suffer from dual loyalty as Arab Muslims and Israelis. The suspected Gaza suicide bomber, Issam Farhat, lived in Tel Sheva for a year, working as a plasterer in several Tel Sheva homes, including al-Sheikh's.

It did not bother al-Sheikh that Farhat had no work permit. The closure was not considered fair. And there was another reason. Beduin have no experience in housing construction, a Gaza specialty.

"There is a feeling you have to help them. They are from the same people, same religion. But Farhat was a normal fellow in every way. Being outside Gaza for so long we assumed he did not absorb the ideas that they push into the heads of people down there," said al-Sheikh.

"Normal" is a relative term. Farhat was actually a withdrawn, unsocial person, but for a Gaza that was normal. "I don't know anyone from Gaza who is always smiling. They are all unfortunates, dispirited, looking for their bread. When someone lives a hard life you cannot know what goes through their head," added al-Sheikh, who owns a steel-rod plant.

ISRAELI BEDUIN feel a special sympathy for Gazans, because, but for fortune, they could have been in their situation. In 1948, when Israel declared independence, most Beduin fled the Beersheba area.

"Some fled west to Gaza, some fled east to the desert," al-Sheikh said. His father fled east and consequently became an Israeli. The more urbanized Beduin fled to Gaza City and became stateless refugees.

A few fled to the Hebron area too, meaning that in recent years most Beduin have been living near the Palestinian areas most under the influence of Islamic politics. However, in Israel the situation is reversed. Islam is stronger in the north, especially the Triangle. Tel Sheva's first



Khader al-Sheikh runs one of Tel Sheva's few industrial enterprises. (Sarit Uzely)

elected council head, Salem Abu-Erkaik, is identified with Abdel Wahab Darawshe's Arab Democratic Party.

An Islamic List in Tel Sheva won three out of nine seats. Rahat, with a population of 24,000, is the only other Beduin local council; it has a Labor-dominated council now after toppling a one-term Islamic-led council in 1993.

THE HOUSE Farhat rented in Tel Sheva belonged to 22-year-old Jihad Abu Erkaik, who inherited it from his late parents. The police seized Jihad as Farhat's accomplice, but released him on Tuesday.

Farhat, in fact, was suspected by many in Tel Sheva of collaborating with Israel. Al-Sheikh

said this without being judgmental. "Many people in Tel Sheva work with the police," he said, which partly explained the residents' outrage when accused of being Hamas collaborators.

Tel Sheva is not totally off the hook. But the smaller the bomb the greater the possibility that it was placed without the knowledge of truck driver Riad Simbri, a middle-aged father of 11, or Farhat, neither of whom is a Beduin.

The Beduin speculate that there may not have been a bomb at all. Some say the police lied, but most believe they overreacted in the heat of the moment and could not back down. Certainly, the loading bed of the truck - its hulk rusting in a field of yellow flowers outside area police headquarters - remained undented after sappers fired a rocket into the truck to explode the bomb.

Police, however, say the bomb was 15 times larger than the one that killed 22 in the October bus bombing in Tel Aviv.

IN GAZA, Beduin are often considered collaborators with Israel because of their close links with Israeli Beduin, but it is not the first time Beduin have been accused of aiding Palestinian extremists.

The Palestinian Authority police spread the assertion, backed by local Palestinians and Israeli soldiers in the Rafiah area, that Beduin in the IDF-protected Dahiniye collaborator camp in southern Gaza were double agents who actually supplied vehicles and fake identity cards to one or both of the Beit Lid bombers in January.

However, if this was true it seems unlikely that the person who handed over his ID card or his Israeli-registered car to a terrorist could have gone undetected for three months by the General Security Service. "If there's the slightest scent of playing both sides of the fence, the collaborators would lose our protection," a security source said.

Accusing collaborators of aiding suicide attacks is clearly in the interests of the Palestinian Authority which cannot then be held responsible for preventing them.

Beduin are now calling themselves victims of an honor feud between the police and army. By claiming to have discovered a huge bomb on its way to Beersheba, the police embarrass the army which was responsible for checking vehicles at the Erez junction. By asserting that only three small homemade bombs were on the truck, the army restores some of its tarnished honor.

There are precedents for one security arm blaming another for a security foulup. The General Security Service tried to blame IDF general



Tel Sheva's first elected council head, Salem Abu-Erkaik. (Sarit Uzely)

Yitzhak Mordechai for the murder of two captured terrorists in 1984, an example Tel Sheva residents constantly mention in conversation.

In the expectation that they will be cleared of wrongdoing, Tel Sheva residents are now gearing up to press their demands for more government aid. If Tel Sheva's loyalty has stood the test, it should receive the same help as Jewish settlements in the Negev.

As a beginning, the council received a letter from its neighbor Omer, apologizing over a week later for the attack by Barbas.

"We, the residents of Omer, express our revulsion at the words of incitement made in our name and hope that our good relations with Tel Sheva will continue," it said.

For Tel Sheva's residents, jobs, schools are priorities

TEL Sheva, sprawling on 4,200 dunams (1,050 acres), has a population density of one person per half dunam. Much of it is empty space waiting for the day that enterprise will take over.

The space is necessary for another reason. Beduin do not like to live crowded up against each other, which is why only 60 families moved into the houses built for them in 1968. Things changed when the government offered larger houses and more space.

Now, the population has reached 9,000, but the township is not ready to handle its growth.

"We need a Kupat Holim clinic. We need three schools. We don't even have our own council building," said council head Salem Abu-Erkaik.

He complained that his unelected predecessor, a man from the Interior Ministry called Shapiro, had the wrong priorities. "He came and he did gardening. But this is not important for us."

Khader al-Sheikh, the township's leading entrepreneur, thought Shapiro's gardening was a positive contribution as the Beduin lack an urban esthetic, and the gardens help them to love the land on which they are now

permanently settled.

Shapiro won, since two winters after his departure the garden is still thriving with drip irrigation.

Bringing jobs to Tel Sheva is the top priority. Unemployment runs at about 30 percent of the male population between 16 and 55, not much less than in Gaza.

"We have one factory and in Yeroham they seem to have a factory for every family," said Halil Abu-Erkaik, head of the education department in Tel Sheva, and a graduate in education from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Al-Sheikh said the government discriminates against the township, but business and social relations with neighboring Jewish Israelis are considered good. "Sixty percent of my business is with Jews," he said.

Still, Tel Sheva stuck with the Labor old guard, and voted 62 percent with Haim Haberfeld in the last Histadrut elections.

Halil Abu-Erkaik is concerned that graduating students have nowhere to go, and are not motivated.

Grades are below the national Arab average, with a 30% matriculation success rate compared with 42% throughout the Arab sector. The problem is that parents have "no education and do not know how to help their children, and half the teachers come from up north and don't stay



Children eat ice lollies on the way home from school in Tel Sheva, where grades are below the national Arab average. (S. Uzely)

more than three years." Motivated parents send their children to schools in the north where, because there is a higher concentration of Arabs, education is better.

The young women dress in tra-

ditional Islamic fashion with headscarves, but this has long been characteristic of Beduin dress and does not denote the influence of political Islam.

They are more modern than they look. Family planning has

begun to make inroads.

One couple with 10 children explained that they actually wanted to stop at five, but the birth-control device used by the wife may have led to a premature birth, so the couple allowed na-

ture to take its course.

But polygamy is not uncommon. Salem Abu-Erkaik, the council head, has three wives. Under Israeli law he is legally married to only one, and the others are common-law wives. J.I.

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Illegal drug use by minors is a matter of substance

The list of illegal drugs seized here last year is longer, but police say both the buyers and sellers are shorter, **Bill Hutman reports**

MOSHE Rodrig has his hands full of the spoils of his war.

Dep.-Cmdr. Rodrig, head of the National Drug Unit, says police officers under his command have stepped up their war on drugs. The booty is what he describes as an unprecedented amount of heroin, cocaine, hashish and LSD.

About 127 kg. of heroin, 24.5 kg. of cocaine, three tons of hashish and nearly 10,000 tablets and "stamps" of LSD were recovered by the National Drug Unit in 1994.

The previous year, police seized slightly more than 80 kg. of heroin, 11 kg. of cocaine and half a ton of hashish, as well as more than 5,000 LSD tablets and stamps.

(An LSD stamp is a liquefied version of the hallucinogenic which is spread on strips of paper that can be cut into squares and flicked by the user.)

Last year's drug seizure represents more than 10 times the amount captured by police a decade ago, authorities say. Rodrig attributes the rise to increased manpower beginning in 1993, as well as the opening of Israel police offices in foreign countries and the use of specially trained dogs at all of the nation's borders.

He also says there have been stepped-up attempts to bring illegal substances into the country.

The amounts captured are startling, Rodrig says, especially when police net only about 10 percent of all the drugs that enter the country.

What has the 20-year police veteran most concerned is not the amount of drugs, but what he claims is the growing number of users and in some cases sellers who are children and teenagers.

Parents can sniff out children's drug use

A leading US drug-detection firm has announced a potent new weapon in the battle of the generations — a \$20 kit that allows parents to check their children's rooms secretly for traces of drugs.

Executives at Barringer Technologies Inc. in New Jersey said this week that the kit — which can be mailed to parents in a thin envelope and sent back for quick analysis — offers a new way to stymie what has been a recent surge in teenage drug use.

Psychologists and social workers who deal with family problems hailed the device as a way to get help early for troubled youths, before their drug problems become too great.

"It usually takes two or three years after a child is using before their behavior becomes so deviant that parents are convinced of their drug use, and by that time they are well into addiction," said Harold Hutton, a staff therapist at the Family Therapy Institute of Alexandria, Virginia.

Barringer executives said the test destroys the sample, so that it could not be used as evidence in court.

The firm's DrugAlert kit contains a 7-cm. premoistened pad, called a swipe, which collects any drug traces when wiped across desk tops, telephones, books, clothing or other items.

"Anyone who has been in contact with illegal narcotics will inadvertently acquire trace amounts of the narcotic," said Stan Binder, chairman and chief executive of the company, which sells a \$50,000 drug spectrometer — called an Ionscan — to police departments and federal agencies.

(Washington Post)

"Israel must decide what kind of country it wants to be. Does it want to be overrun by drugs, like is happening in much of the world? Or does it want to take action to stop this disease?"

Getting tough on drugs can mean a lot of things, including spending more money on drug education.

It can also mean jailing youngsters caught using drugs instead of not charging first-time offenders, as is the policy today.

SURVEYS PUBLISHED by the Jerusalem-based War on Drugs Authority, a nonprofit organization founded in 1988 for drug research and education, show a slight drop in drug use by those under 18 between the late 1980s and early 1990s.

In 1989, according to the research group, 6.4 percent of those 12 to 18 years old said they had used illegal drugs at least once recently. In 1993, the most recent statistics available, the figure dropped to 4.9 percent.

Police say those numbers are misleading. Drug use among minors in recent years has been steadily on the rise, according to police, although they do not keep drug-use statistics.

Cmdr. Ze'eva Aharoni, head

of the National Police Youth Section, says the War on Drugs Authority surveys missed a large population of youths who are afraid to admit to using drugs, even on an anonymous questionnaire.

The drug problem has also got worse in the two years since the authority's last study was published, Aharoni says.

"I don't want to even try to give specific numbers [of under-18 drug users]," she says. Aharoni says police don't have any estimate. "Let's just say the problem is very worrisome."

A glimpse at the January campaign by Jerusalem police to crack down on illicit drug use by minors provides an example of how widespread the problem has become.

Just last year, a special squad was set up in the capital to fight drug use and trade among minors. There is only one other such unit, in Tel Aviv.

Six police officers comprise the Jerusalem unit, which was set up with funding from within the police budget and additional money from the government, according to police.

At the start of the year, by order of Jerusalem Police Chief Arye Amit, the unit launched an intensive crackdown. In a span of about 10 weeks, some 150 minors were detained for illicit drug use and trade in the capital. Police say that in all of 1994, about 40 minors were detained for drug violations.

The suspects included several 12- and 13-year-olds detained for selling hashish to their classmates. Police say that, for the first time in Jerusalem, an 11-year-old was caught selling hashish. One year too young to be prosecuted, the boy was turned over to welfare authorities.

THE JERUSALEM arrests did

not come out of the blue. Amit announced last year that fighting the drug problem among minors in the capital was going to be a top priority.

He followed through with his promise to take action by devoting additional manpower, but he also took another step that sparked a public outcry.

In January, Amit called a meeting of high-school principals and outlined the planned crackdown on illegal drugs. He asked them to turn over enrollment records so police could easily locate suspects.

Thirteen schools complied. The principal of Leyad Ha'universita High School refused. Last week, Amit obtained a court order requiring the school to hand over the records.

The school responded with a court injunction against the police.

The high school maintained that the police demand was an invasion of the pupils' privacy, and that handing over enrollment records, which include the pupils' names, ages and addresses, would turn all of them into suspects.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal agreed with the school. He forced Amit to drop his unprecedented demand, and on Tuesday the court order to hand over the enrollment records was rescinded.

Long-standing police policy stipulates that police only ask for information from schools about pupils who are suspects.

"We have to be careful in not creating negative stigmas about particular schools or pupils," Rodrig says. He was openly critical of Amit. "He did what he did without consulting anyone. Not us, not anyone at National Police headquarters, not even the Education Ministry."

Amit declined to comment on Rodrig's accusations. The Jerusalem Police spokesman said, "The decision by the police chief was an independent decision, taking into consideration the needs of the investigation."

The question about how the war on drugs is to be conducted, Rodrig says, centers on what sort of country Israel wants to be. "Do we want to be a Western state, with Western values, or do we want a police state, with Big Brother looking over our shoulder?"

"I think we can conduct the war on drugs while still maintaining our values, and not treating every youth like a potential suspect."

Rodrig says Amit's demand for enrollment records was unnecessary. Police have other ways of getting information about pupils, he says, such as the Interior Ministry's population registers.

But Amit found few supporters, even among the police.

Rodrig also says he is strongly opposed to any attempt to change the policy of not prosecuting minors caught smoking hashish or marijuana for the first time. "Our goal isn't to throw someone in jail, but to help get him straight again," Rodrig says. "We would only be making things worse if, for the sake of saying we're 'getting tough,' we started throwing more youngsters in jail."

Energy minister seeks a secure pipeline

Gonen Segev is trying to close deals that would determine the country's gas and oil suppliers for the next 25 years, Steve Rodan writes



Segev: I have to establish myself on the political map. I'm trying to do the maximum work — and the minimum in terms of politics.

(Isaac Harari)

WEDNESDAY is Knesset day for Gonen Segev, and the new energy minister is flying in and out of his office to the background sound of the plenum debate, piped in from a speaker above his desk.

"Are they voting now?" Segev asks his aide. "Should I go now?"

He leaves for the plenum to tap in his vote and returns to the sounds of several phones ringing. By this time, his aide is gone.

"I'm going crazy," Segev says. On the bulletin board facing the minister is a child's poster: "Dad, Mom, Happy New Year," the poster says, and: "Don't upset me."

Segev is a man intent on building a record of achievement before the 1996 Knesset elections. Breaking away from Rafael Eitan's Tsomet Party to form Yi'ud hasn't been easy for the 39-year-old Segev, a man often described as a political novice. First, a third of his party defected when MK Esther Salmovitz decided to go independent. Segev, a physician, then had to fight accusations that he took bribes for declaring Holocaust survivors ill so they could receive pensions from the German government.

But Segev has prevailed over his woes to devote most of his time to the Energy Ministry. He's intent on wrapping up major deals that might decide Israel's energy suppliers for the next 25 years. The issues involved relate as much to Israel's confidence in its Arab neighbors as to economic considerations.

Segev will travel to Cairo on April 10 to meet Egyptian Petroleum Minister Hamdi Al Banbi. Egypt has ambitions to be the leading supplier of natural gas to the Middle East and Europe and wants Israel to top its list of potential customers. The Egyptians are planning a pipeline that will extend to Israel and eventually to Turkey.

"The problem is security," Segev says. "What if Egypt cuts off the gas?"

Other potential Arab suppliers pose the same dilemma.

The minister suggests that any deal with Egypt be guaranteed by the US so that if Cairo were to decide to shut the pipeline, Washington would supply oil or natural gas at a reasonable price.

"It is clear that Israel will proceed with such a project after [there are] real guarantees," he says. "Such as a US pledge that it will subsidize oil if there is a gas cut-off. I, as energy minister, will not enter any such agreement without assurances that if Egyptians one day, for whatever reason, go crazy and close the tap, there will be continued production of electricity just like the day before the pipeline shut-off."

Egypt's position on other energy issues also appears to worry

Segev. The government of President Hosni Mubarak has refused to participate in US-sponsored joint energy projects with Israel. This includes the connection of the electricity grids of Israel, Egypt and Jordan, which would eventually form part of a European-Middle Eastern network. The Egyptians will only go as far as getting technical advice from Israel. Thus Egypt is asking Israel and the US to help in planning dual solar and gas electricity production.

In contrast, Jordan, which like Israel has virtually no reserves of oil or natural gas, has agreed to such cooperation as the joint electrical grid. The first step is the connection of the grids of the cities of Aqaba and Eilat, something Segev says will be completed by the end of the year. Other projects involve the production of solar energy.

"We're talking about real cooperation with Jordan," he says. "There is the political aspect, another guarantee that there won't be war. Economically, this also makes sense."

Segev says he's asked the World Bank to establish a panel to study Israel's energy needs and make recommendations before the government decides to sign any contract. He expects some answers within the next few weeks.

OTHER ARAB countries may enter the picture. The minister says one possibility could be a pipeline from Iraq. He points out that the economic minister of the Palestinian Authority, Ahmed Qreia, proposed that the PA receive oil from Baghdad. Segev dismissed the request in view of the UN embargo on Saddam Hussein's regime.

"In the future, if you're really talking about a new Middle East, we could see the renewal of the IPC, the Iraq-Palestine Company, which had a pipeline to Haifa."

That, Segev adds, is the utopia that only future generations might witness. The minister sounds skeptical about the Middle East peace process. Although he is upbeat about the peace with

Jordan, he advises a go-slow approach with the Palestinians regarding the second stage of the Declaration of Principles, which includes Palestinian elections and the IDF's withdrawal from Arab towns and villages in Judea and Samaria.

Unlike Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, Segev does not see the Israel-Palestinian process as irreversible and resulting in a Palestinian state. A member of the ministerial committee on security, Segev expects that Palestinian elections will be bloody. But he is confident that the IDF could return to the territories and restore order on short notice and with minimum political damage.

"If the process explodes tomorrow, heaven forbid, Israel doesn't lose anything," he says. "It will lose Gaza and the people won't cry over that."

Concerning Syria, he urges that the government delay any decision on the future of the Golan Heights until after the 1996 elections. Meanwhile, he says, Israel should be willing to trade "small gestures" with Damascus. One approach might be a withdrawal from a tiny area of the Heights in exchange for Syria's expulsion from its own territory and from Lebanon of terror groups, which it now harbors and promotes. This would include restraining Hizbullah.

The bell in the Knesset rings for another vote, this time on a Likud motion to establish a panel of inquiry into the Histadrut pension crisis. Segev, however, can't stop himself from answering questions on his political future.

The minister hopes the escalation of rhetoric between the Likud and Labor does not signal early elections. He says he has plenty more to do to establish Yi'ud as a movement.

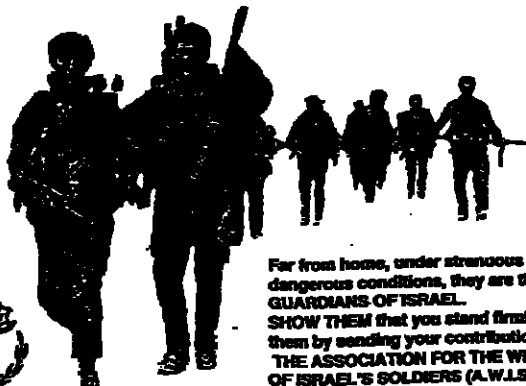
"I have to establish myself on the political map. I am trying to do the maximum work — and the minimum in terms of politics."

By this time, however, his aides are practically pushing him out the door. Segev makes a dash for his seat in the plenum. He presses the button to vote against the Likud proposal — two seconds late. The resolution is carried.

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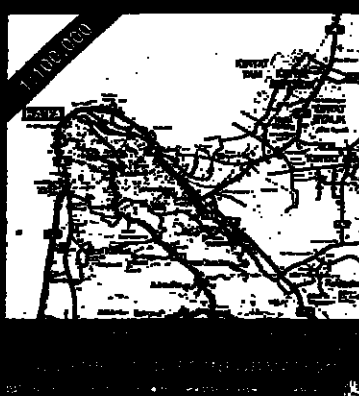
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مكتبة النخيل

Consular staffers upset only if the joke's on them

EYE ON THE MEDIA
DAVID BAR-ILLAN

HUMOR is a matter of taste: One person's joke is another's yawn. And whether a satirical piece is a cause for merriment or dismay often depends on whose ox is gored. Few appreciate a parody at their own expense.

On Purim two weeks ago, *The Jerusalem Post* published a satire which spoofed mostly the *Post* itself and its writers. No one seemed offended. But the next day its weekly advertising supplement *In Jerusalem* featured four pages of satirical material, named *Out Jerusalem*, which parodied people in the news. Like American comedian Jackie Mason, it tried to be as politically incorrect as possible.

Such parodies come off when delivered by a genius comedian like Mason. Printed, they seldom produce guffaws. At their best, they shock and amuse by holding a distorted mirror to events.

One of the articles, entitled "US Embassy moves to capital," sarcastically stated that the PA would oppose the move because it would deprive the many Palestinian employees in the US Consulate of an opportunity to be rude, surly and mean to American Jews.

Like all parodies, the piece was

intended as an exaggeration of the truth, not a complete invention. The natural presumption on reading it is that such rudeness and discrimination do exist. (In my limited experience with consular staff I have only witnessed exemplary courtesy.)

The piece raised the ire of the American consul-general, who wrote the following:

"The article is scurrilous and offensive. Although I recognize it is supposed to be a Purim parody, it includes ethnic slurs that I must protest in the strongest possible terms. Even when thinly veiled as 'humor,' such slurs remain unacceptable."

"In keeping with the strong American abhorrence of racial and ethnic prejudice, the United States Consulate-General in Jerusalem consistently strives to provide polite and efficient service to all people, regardless of ethnic origin, religious affiliation or national identity. The consulate is one of the rare places in Jerusalem where Israeli and Palestinian employees work harmoniously as colleagues and equals. That their professionalism, dedication and integrity should be impugned by your newspaper - on any day of the year - is an unconscionable breach of

journalistic professionalism.

"Israelis, more than anyone else, should be sensitive to ethnic slur and innuendo, which makes *The Jerusalem Post* particularly offensive. If your own legitimate campaign against antisemitic, anti-Israeli media treatment is to be taken seriously, your newspaper should issue an apology to the American Consulate staff."

EDWARD G. ABINGTON
Consul-General, Jerusalem

In my response I suggested that if the paper apologized to every target of a Purim parody, there would be little space for anything else. I resented the inference of racial and ethnic prejudice. Ethnically, Palestinian Arabs are closer to Palestinian Jews than the latter are to most Americans. The reference reminded me too much of the common media view of the Arab-Israeli conflict as one in which the Israelis are the oppressive "whites" and the Arabs the oppressed "blacks."

But Abington's letter was not the only protest. Others complained that the Purim pages

"picked on Palestinians," who had no way of understanding Purim humor. The following week *In Jerusalem* published an explanation assuring readers that no offense had been intended.

There is nothing wrong with criticizing humor. Racist and antisemitic cartoons are despicable. From the stereotypes in Hitler's *Der Stürmer* to the works of Oliphant, Conrad, Danziger and Marlette in the US, to the caricatures of Jews in the Egyptian press, they can promote hatred, bigotry and violence. But it is doubtful that this can apply to a dig, savage as it may be, at the consulate clerks' manners.

Abington's protest against the Purim parody would be more persuasive if just one US official protested the portrayal of Israelis as Nazis, child-murderers and Christ killers in the Arab press, let alone in US newspapers.

RESPONSE TO PBS COLUMN

The following letter was received from Ramat Gan reader Zvi Goldberg:

"[In his March 10 column] Bar-illan accuses PBS [the Public Broadcasting System in the US] of 'distortions and falsehoods.' These, however, are far from absent in Bar-illan's own account. The main argument raised by PBS was that some two-thirds of all lands in the West Bank have been declared 'state lands' and effectively reserved for the exclusive use of Jewish settlers."

"To this, Bar-illan responds that the settlements take up only 'about four percent' of the West Bank lands, and that 'as in every orderly country, land not owned privately (in this case, about 60 percent) is government land, not for anyone's exclusive use.'"

"Really! The settlers themselves... make no secret of the fact that they regard 'state lands' as intended for the eventual extension of Jewish settlement... Nor is this merely the settlers' private perception... successive Israeli governments - including even the present, supposedly peace-seeking Meretz-Labor coalition - have persistently given away 'state lands' to the settlers and to them only."

"I challenge Mr. Bar-illan to point out a single case in which any Israeli government assigned a parcel of 'state land' to the creation of a new Palestinian village, town or neighborhood, or even to the extension of an existing one - as compared to the hundreds of cases where this was done for Israeli settlers. The present situation is hardly comparable to that in 'every orderly country' where... access to government land and other resources is not supposed to depend on nationality or ethnic origin."

"The PBS, a major US news distributor, is hardly to be blamed for applying the same standards to Israel. I, for one, wish them success. I hope the time will soon come when we no longer maintain a military rule over the West Bank, which makes us ashamed of how others see us - and of how we perceive ourselves."

Mr. Goldberg has misunderstood the point of the column. In defending its documentary *Journey to the Occupied Land*, PBS justified the most outrageous fabrications, falsehoods and inventions by stating that "the factual heart of the film" - that Israel has confiscated two-thirds of the territories - is irrefutable.

This means that the end justifies the means, and that media distortions can be rationalized as being in the service of the greater "truth." Such thinking is totalitarian, wholly unacceptable in a free society.

As the March 10 column put it, "if journalists accepted such logic, Janet Cooke, the disgraced *Washington Post* writer whose story about a small boy in the ghetto turned out to be a hoax, should get her job and Pulitzer Prize back. After all, there are small boys in the inner city just like the one she made up."

Goldberg is also wrong on the facts. State land has been allotted to Arabs for grazing, and in the areas of Jericho, Hebron, Nablus and other areas for industrial projects and institutions.

The village of Fasayil in the Jordan valley, for example, was built on state land in 1970. This in addition to illegal Arab building, squatting and planting on such land with tacit Israeli approval.

But the letter's last paragraph indicates what really bothers Goldberg: Israeli presence in the territories "makes us ashamed of how others see us." Obviously, PBS's fabrications can't be all bad if they help get Israel out of these territories.

The religious motive

ANTHONY ASHLEY Cooper, the First Earl of Shaftesbury (1601-1683), was the Ashley of the "Cabal" of Charles II's reign in England (1660-1685).

It was then that the term, originating in the Hebrew "Kabbala," designating Jewish mysticism, came to mean a sinister intrigue by a small group of persons. That was because it referred acronymically to Charles's five unpopular ministers who constituted his Council of State: Clifford, Ashley, Buckingham, Arlington and Lauderdale.

Shaftesbury achieved immortality by pushing the Habeas Corpus Act through Parliament.

Ashley's grandson and namesake, the Third Earl of Shaftesbury (1671-1713), gets a passing mention in the *Encyclopedia Judaica* for his description of the Jews as "naturally a very cloudy people," possessing, "certainly in religion, as in everything else, the least Good Humour of any People in the world."

In the 19th century, the Seventh Earl of Shaftesbury, also called Anthony Ashley Cooper (1801-1885), played a major role in the Zionization of England.

His activity was probably the major stimulus in the process that, in November 1917, inspired Prime Minister David Lloyd George and Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour to officially adopt the cause of Jewish national restoration in the Jewish people's ancestral homeland.

The Balfour Declaration was incorporated into the San Remo peace treaty the Allies signed with Turkey 75 years ago next month. On the basis of that, the League of Nations soon afterwards assigned the Palestine Mandate to Britain.

(Britain's subsequent betrayal is another story.)

A VIEW FROM NOV
MOSHE KOHN

He was sought after by the two major parties, the Tories and the Whigs, for cabinet office, "which he consistently refused in order to remain above party for the sake of his welfare work."

His "zeal for God's ancient people," as he called the Jews, was the outcome of the same entire acceptance of the Bible that had made him a philanthropist. He worked just as hard to restore the Jews to Palestine as he did to pass the series of pioneering social and labor laws that he pushed through Parliament.

On a ring he always wore was engraved the passage from Psalm 122:6, "Oh, pray for the peace of Jerusalem!"

He was president of the London Society for Promoting Christianity Amongst the Jews [London Jews' Society] from 1848, and he promoted the establishment of what he called a "Hebrew Bishopric" in Jerusalem. The bishopric was established and Michael Solomon (Pollack) Alexander (1797-1845), a converted Jew and professor of Hebrew and Rabbis at King's College, London, was appointed as the first Anglican bishop of Jerusalem in November 1841.

It was at Shaftesbury VII's urging that Foreign Secretary Lord Palmerston, his stepfather-in-law, opened the first British consulate in Jerusalem in 1838, for the express purpose of protecting the Jews.

He wrote detailed projects for the resettlement of Jews in Eretz Yisrael, which he sent to the British government and circulated among Protestant heads of state in Europe and America.

His diary contains the following entry for May 17, 1854, seven weeks after the Crimean War was officially declared:

"...the Turkish empire is in rapid decay; every nation is restless; all hearts expect some great thing... No one can say that we are anticipating prophecy; the requirements [of prophecy] seem nearly fulfilled; Syria is wasted without an inhabitant; these vast and fertile regions will soon be without a ruler, without a known and acknowledged power to

claim dominion. The territory must be assigned to some one or other; can it be given to any European potentate? to any American colony? to any Asiatic sovereign or tribe? Are there aspirants from Africa to fasten a demand on the soil from Hamath to the river of Egypt? No, no, no! There is a country without a nation; a nation without a country [emphasis Shaftesbury's]. His own once loved, nay, still loved people, the sons of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob."

I thank Father Thomas F. Stransky, Rector of the Tantor Ecumenical Institute for Theological Studies, Jerusalem, for sending me this passage. It appears in *The Jerusalem Bishopric and Its Connection With the London Society for Promoting Christianity Amongst the Jews* (London Society House, 1887).

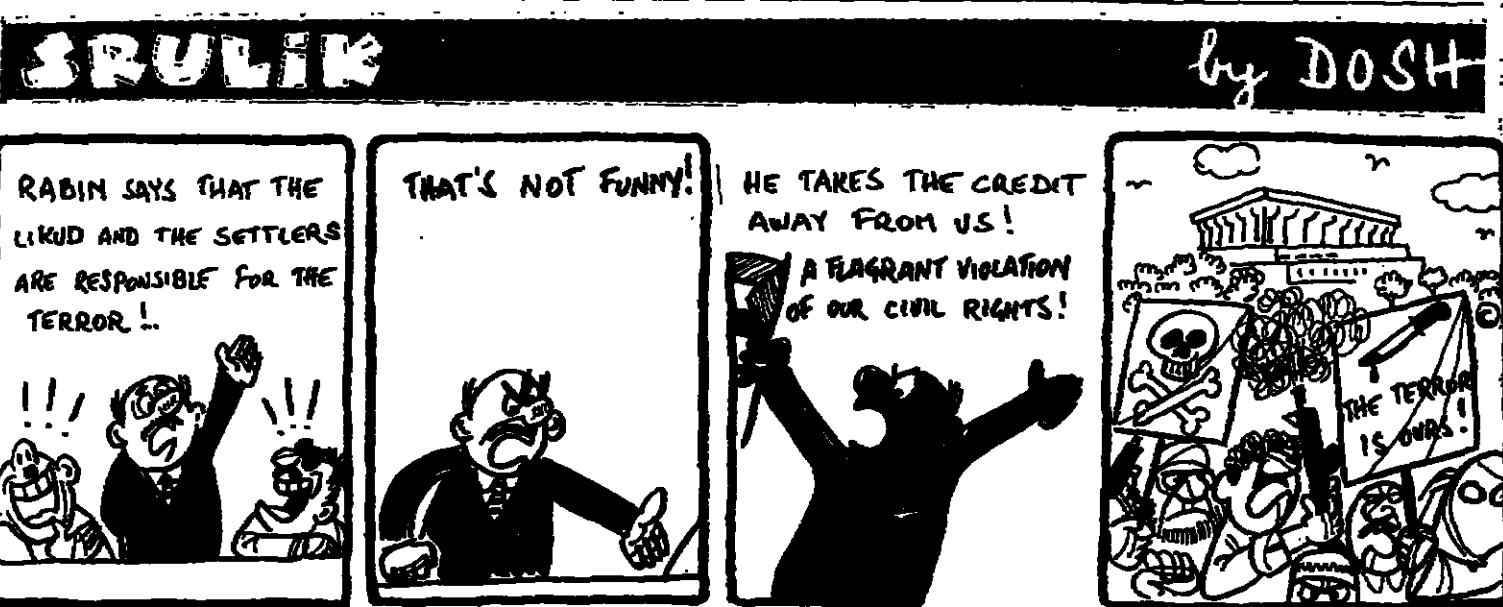
Stransky notes that William Blackstone, the American Christian Zionist who spoke of Eretz Yisrael and the Jews in terms of "a land without a people, and a people without a land [see my column of March 3], had contacts with the London Jews' Society in 1888." So he "may have read that booklet" and produced his own variation on Shaftesbury's statement.

Another reader, Zephaniah Kahanavi of Herzliya, basing himself on Edwin Hodder's biography of Shaftesbury VII, earlier suggested that the latter's formulation was "a land without a people to a people without a land" (*The Jerusalem Post*, March 15).

Be that as it may, Tuchman sums up Shaftesbury VII's activities and 19th-century British Zionism as follows:

"It hurts the economic historians, the Marxists and Fabians, to admit that the Ten Hours Bill, the basic piece of 19th-century labor legislation, came down from the top, out of a private nobleman's private feelings about the gospel, or [to admit] that the abolition of the slave trade was achieved not through the operation of some 'law' of profit and loss, but purely as the result of the new humanitarianism of the Evangelicals..."

"[I]f England in the 20th century undertook the restoration of Israel to Palestine, it was because the 19th was by and large religiously motivated."



On the border of life and death

SHABBAT SHALOM
SHLOMO RISKIN

"And the Lord spoke to Moses saying: 'Speak to the children of Israel saying: If a woman has conceived seed, and given birth to a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days... But if she bears a female child, then she shall be unclean two weeks.'" (Lev. 12:1-5)

NOT surprisingly, the occasion of childbirth is so momentous that the Torah, in this week's portion of *Tazria*, commands sacrifices to be brought afterwards.

But what does surprise many people is that the Torah distinguishes, seemingly arbitrarily, between the birth of a male and the birth of a female.

If the baby is a boy, the mother brings the sacrifice after waiting 40 days, the first seven days in a state of impurity (*tum'a*), followed by 33 days of purity (*tahara*).

If it's a girl, the waiting period for bringing the sacrifice is 80 days, divided into 14 days of impurity and 66 of purity.

Why does the Torah stress the sex of the child in regard to the mother's state? Some readers might even accuse the Torah of patriarchal prejudice.

There is, however, a more fundamental question. Regardless as to whether the period is seven days for a boy and 14 days for a girl, why should the new mother be *tum'a* - ritually impure - at all?

What is *tum'a*, biblical ritual impurity, all about?

Conceptually, states of impurity treated in the Bible all have something to do with the opposite of life - death.

Both life and death are mysteries, but God exhorts us to "choose life," and views the totality of life as good.

The very purpose of Torah and its commandments is to perfect this world of the living in the Kingship of God. Hence anything that mitigates against life is declared *tumeh*, ritually impure.

The severest source of ritual impurity is a human corpse (*avi avot hanum'a*), though an animal carcass, a dead insect, and leprosy (a form of living death) all render those coming into contact with them impure (*tumeh*).

Not only death itself, but even the unfulfilled potential for life creates *tum'a*. This is the source for the *um'a* everyone has heard about - a woman's menstrual cycle. The sight of blood means that the potential for new life was not met - an indirect encounter with death.

To return to a state of purity, one must immerse in a mikve, a pool of flowing ("living") water, as opposed to the stagnant water of a bath, water being the symbol for life itself.

CHILD BIRTH is the moment when death and life touch. If something does go wrong, any doctor will testify that all of nature converges to save the child, even at the expense of the mother, and until 75 years ago, the greatest cause of death among women was childbirth. In fact, a woman who gives birth is required to recite *birkat hagomel*, the same blessing said after having survived a serious brush with death.

The Malbim even suggests that the reason for the man's daily blessing in thanks to God for not having made him a woman stems from the inherent danger of childbirth which every woman faces. The blood in the wake of childbirth is reminiscent of the element of death present in that mysterious moment which hovers between life and death.

However, since the act of childbirth is only a brush with death, the days of purity far outweigh the days of impurity, in a ratio of either 33:7 or 66:14. Everything is doubled in the case of the birth of a girl, because it is the female physiology in which the life-and-death drama is played out.

This juxtaposition between death and life is not at all strange, and occurs on many different levels. It is a factor in every serious operation, and the "binding of Isaac" proves that only he who is

willing to sacrifice his life for a higher ideal actually lives a meaningful life.

In Israel we experience the death-life connection with Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars, which is marked one day before Independence Day.

The contiguous celebration of the two days, Remembrance Day (a brush with death and destruction) and Independence Day (the birth of the State of Israel) parallels the Torah's understanding of childbirth.

The portion *Tazria* not only deals with the birth of a child, but leaves us with an understanding of the relationship between a brush with death, and the ultimate gift of life. We come to learn that just as death and life are intimately, painfully and mysteriously connected, so too the states of purity and impurity exist in an eternal dialogue.

I cannot think of any moment in the year more poignant than the closing moments of Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars, as thousands gather in the large square in Efrat in the waning light of the day.

A lone plaintive *El Maleh Rachamim* prayer pierces the sky, slowly giving way to the thunderous explosion of fireworks and "Hanukkah" celebrating Independence Day.

May our celebrations of life always be far more numerous than our memories of death.

Shabbat Shalom

Lend us a hand now and at the annual Pessah Handicrafts Fair

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Preparations are nearing completion for our annual Pessah Handicrafts Fair on April 18 at the Metro West Sport Center in Ramatana. This year promises to be more successful than ever, with thousands of items to suit all tastes and pockets. Eighteen door prizes have been donated by

generous contributors, and there will be entertainment for the youngsters. I'm looking forward to seeing old and new friends there.

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NOTE: Our next list will appear on April 14 and every other week from then on until further notice.

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When the contract went belly up

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer
Neither side vulnerable

Dummy
(Zia)
♠ 1084
♥ 63
♦ Q43
♣ KJ764

West
(Deutsch)
♠ Q72
♥ KQJ5
♦ K965
♣ 83

East
(Rosenberg)
♠ 953
♥ 1072
♦ AJ2
♣ A1095

South
(Sharif)
♠ AKJ6
♥ A984
♦ 1087
♣ Q2

Deutsch Zia Rosenberg Sharif
West North East South
1♣ double 2♣ 2♣
(all pass)

Opening lead: ♣K

THEY often come to the bridge table from opposite ends of the human spectrum.

North might be an aging financial tycoon, East a middle-aged postal worker, South a teenage prodigy and West a beautiful model. At the table, only their bridge abilities count.

On the expert levels, the same is true. An example is the four-some in this week's deal from the Macallan/Sunday Times Championship in London.

East was one of the hottest players on the professional circuit, Michael Rosenberg of New York. Last fall he won the world team championship and was second in the world pairs. This January he took first place in the annual invitational at the Hague, partnered by globe-trotting Pakistani star Zia Mahmood.

Zia was his opponent on this occasion, sitting North. When my wife and I lived in New York we were friends with both players.

Rosenberg, who has a quiet demeanor, enjoys discussing the technical aspects of bridge hands and can do so for hours at a time. When we worked with him as traders on the American Stock Exchange, the three of us analyzed far more bridge hands than stock companies.

Zia, on the other hand, is a flamboyant fellow who fancies himself a ladies' man and discusses bridge from the viewpoint of a poet.

West was Texan Seymon Deutsch, like Rosenberg a quiet, modest businessman, and South was Omar Sharif, the well-known movie star whose love of bridge, horses, gourmet food and women – probably in that order – makes him a popular player in the kibitzers' eyes.

Sitting East, Rosenberg passed and Sharif opened the bidding one diamond, because he was playing five-card majors. Deutsch overcalled one heart and Zia doubled. This was a negative double, which usually promises four spades and explains why Sharif bid two spades over Rosenberg's raise to two hearts.

Two spades became the final contract, and Deutsch led the king of hearts, which held the trick as Sharif ducked. Deutsch switched to the eight of clubs and Sharif played the king. Rosenberg won and played a trump.

Sharif won the ace of spades and played ace of hearts and a heart ruff. He returned to the queen of clubs and ruffed his fourth heart with 10 of spades.

At this point Rosenberg was out of hearts and had to make a discard. His choices were a club or a diamond. Rosenberg assumed that Sharif would next cash the jack of clubs, which would be ruffed by his partner. Then Deutsch could play a diamond, and after three rounds of diamonds, Rosenberg could play the last club to promote a trump trick in his partner's hand. He therefore could not throw a club.

But he didn't want to discard a diamond either, because the diamond was the deuce! This signal might discourage his partner from leading a diamond. Rosenberg found a unique solution: He underuffed! When declarer ruffed his fourth heart with the 10 of spades, Rosenberg followed with the five of spades.

This play broke the tension at the table, causing tremendous laughter, but the result was what Rosenberg wanted: His partner ruffed the jack of clubs and found it easy to switch to a diamond and defeat the contract. The kibitzers applauded.



Though poisonous, cyclamen is used to treat stomach worms and even to catch fish. (Israel Sam)

Plants that can poison

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

THERE are enough poisonous plants to fill an encyclopedia.

Almost every plant that has medicinal qualities is toxic, if used in the wrong proportions or incorrectly administered. Most modern drugs are either derived from plants or have been synthesized to copy certain plant properties.

A number of Israel's toxic plants are outstandingly beautiful.

For example, a common plant often grown in gardens as a flowering shrub, and found wild in Galilee, is the *Datura innoxia* (*datura nehyat-pri* in Hebrew). This is a bush with bright green leaves and enormous white trumpet-shaped flowers and very attractive seed balls that look like prickly ping-pong balls. All parts of the *Datura* are poisonous, especially the seeds. Among several alkaloid poisons, it contains large amounts of scopolamine.

Datura stramonium (*datura zekufat-pri* in Hebrew) is much smaller, and not attractive enough to be ornamental. But it's sometimes grown as a medicinal plant because it contains atropine, and other medically useful compounds.

The plant is used in herbal, naturopathic and homeopathic medicine and Beduin in the Sinai use it as a psychedelic.

As a number of adventurous youngsters learned to their sorrow a couple of decades ago, this is very dangerous. In fact it proved fatal for a few of them.

Another poisonous plant is the oleander (*Nerium oleander* in Latin, *harduf hanehalim* in Hebrew) which grows in the north, central and coastal areas. Oleanders have beautiful pink or white

flowers and are often grown as ornamentals. It contains an alkaloid poison, "oleandrin," which can be very dangerous.

There was a case of a woman in California who ran out of skewers at a garden party and substituted some fresh-cut oleander twigs. She poisoned a number of guests, three of them fatally.

Few people think of poison when they see a cyclamen (*rakefer* in Hebrew). A member of the Reseda family, this popular flower is a harbinger of spring, but its corolla is poisonous. In medicine it is used to treat stomach worms, and Beduin use it in a pulverized form to catch fish.

Almond trees can also be poisonous. The kernels of bitter almonds, like those of apricots, contain a cyanide type of poison that, when mixed with stomach acids, can be very toxic. More than one child has been rushed to hospital unconscious after eating these seeds.

To win with Black

CHESS

NIGEL DAVIES

THE problem of winning with Black is one of the great issues in modern tournament chess. Playing the game from an attitude of accuracy and safety means that White's first-move advantage is often translated into lasting pressure. Very often the most Black can hope for is to achieve a draw after careful defense.

Some players, like Garry Kasparov and Boris Gelfand, adopt a strategy of counterattack with Black, trying from the outset to steal the initiative through inventive and complex play. This is risky and demands a huge amount of nerve and energy.

In the book *Training for the Tournament Player*, which Grandmaster Artur Yusupov wrote with his trainer, Mark Dvoretsky, Yusupov describes an alternative approach to the problem of winning with Black. Having assessed his physical condition as "not ideal," he decided to avoid unnecessary complications and attempt to outplay his opponents in simplified positions.

Among Israeli players, there is one notable exponent of this style, Yona Kosashvili, who achieves a high level of success despite his rather solid and unambitious repertoire of openings.

Here is a game from the Moscow Olympiad last year in which we see Yusupov practicing what he preaches. His opponent loses his nerve and succumbs surprisingly quickly.

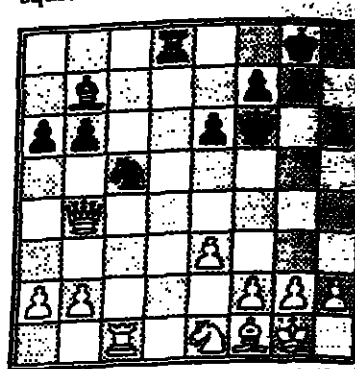
Grandma Zuzma – Yusupov, A Queen's Gambit Declined 1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 d5 4 Nc3 Be7 5 Bg5 h6 6 Bb4 0-0 7 e3 Ne4 Lasker's variation, which is rarely used these days. Black exchanges a couple of pieces in order to free his position.

8 Bxe7 Qxe7 9 Qc2 Nxc3 10 Qxc3 dxc4 11 Bxc4 b6 12 d0-0 Bb7 13 Rd1 Nd7 14 Ne1

In the next few moves White tries to extract something from this dull position, but his efforts ultimately compromise it. Standard moves are 14 Racl and 14 b4, neither of which causes Black much trouble.

14...c5 15 Qa3 a6 16 Bf1 Qf6 17 Racl Rfd8 18 dxc5 Nxc5 19 Rxd8?? Rxd8 20 Qb4? White's plan of attacking the b6 pawn was quite reasonable from a position point of view, but there is a serious tactical flaw. Black's next move initiates a decisive attack against the f2 square, traditionally the weakest

square in White's position.



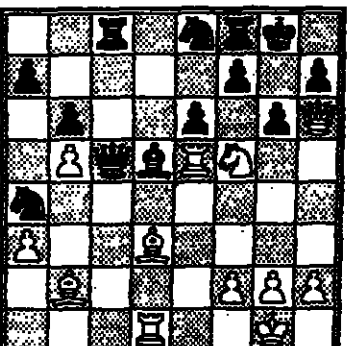
20...c5! 21.Qxb6 Rd2 22.Nc3 If 22.f3 then 22...Qh4! is a killer.

22...Bxc3 23.gxf3 If 23.Qxc5 then 23...Bxg2 is the end of the road. Black's next move takes back the sacrificed pawn and he then makes short work of White's exposed king position.

23...Qxf3 24.Qb8+ Kh7 25.Qg3 Qd5 26.Qf4 Ne4! 27.Be4 Qe8 28.Qxf7 Nd2 29.Bxe6 Qh1 mate.

THE TEL-AVIV Junior Chess Championships are set for April 7 at Bikuire Ha'itim Center on Hefuman St. The center will also host the 10th Chess Festival of Tel Aviv, April 11 to 22. Details: Yochanan Afek, 03-5236045, or Ramny Tal, 03-5403612.

THIS WEEK'S problem is a spectacular finish by the Austrian Grandmaster Rudolf Spielmann, who belied his quiet nature by playing some of the most ferocious chess ever seen. The position in the diagram is from a 1929 game Spielmann – Hoenlinger. White to play and win.



Solution: Spielmann played 1.Ne7+, sacrificing a knight, as a prelude to an even greater material investment. The game continued 1...Qxe7 2.Qxh7+ Kxh7 3.Rh5+ and Black resigned because 3...Kg8 is met by 4.Rh8 mate.

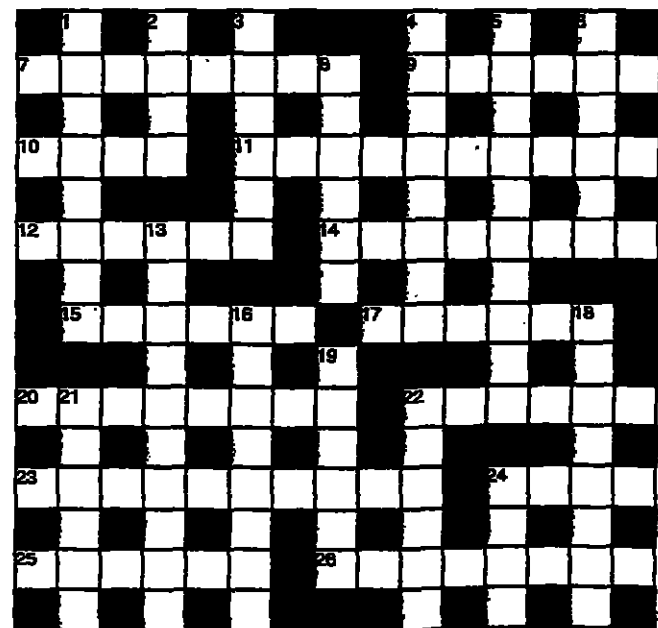
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

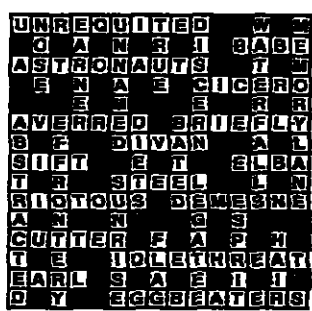
- 7 No hurdles (4,4)
- 9 Honour Mr Todd with a Shakespearean role (6)
- 10 Small, neat lighter (4)
- 11 Dated a motoring colleague in handy joint (10)
- 12 Medic imprisoned by Afrikaner terrorist, maybe (6)
- 14 Expedient to provide a means of support (8)
- 15 A little sweet (6)
- 17 Skinhead undressed and made sinuous movements (6)
- 20 Display draperies the morning after (8)
- 22 Do invest sterling within limits (6)

DOWN

- 23 Merchandise remains, but it's not moving (5-5)
- 24 Advance notice that I'm the officer in charge (4)
- 25 Oxford detective left a little food (6)
- 26 A patient attendant so humane in disposition (8)
- 1 Paint suggestion that white is the winner? (5,3)
- 2 A fish pond could provide the fare for it (4)
- 3 He works the land by a distant French sea (6)
- 4 It offers sole protection for the brave (8)
- 5 Material revealing the prophet as a dupe (10)



SOLUTIONS



ACROSS: 1 Dough, 4 Nation, 9 Certain, 10 Tactic, 11 Nigh, 12 Conquer, 13 Elk, 14 Oral, 16 Shed, 18 Ash, 20 Against, 21 Cope, 24 China, 25 Arrange, 26 Needed, 27 Force.

DOWN: 1 Decent, 2 Urrig, 3 Heal, 5 Atomic, 6 Incand, 7 Motory, 8 Knock, 13 Elongate, 15 Festive, 17 Talon, 18 Atlas, 19 Sever, 22 Over, 23 Trip.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 7 Heaviness (6)
- 8 On every side (6)
- 10 Crush (7)
- 11 Original (5)
- 12 Practical joke (4)
- 13 First Indian PM (5)
- 17 Bombardment (5)
- 18 Bullet (4)
- 22 Triple-time dance (5)
- 23 Restrict (7)
- 24 Hydrophobia (6)
- 25 Bear witness (6)

DOWN

- 1 Dark-skinned (7)
- 2 Show (7)
- 3 Tarnament (5)
- 4 Grain storehouse (7)
- 5 Urbane (5)
- 6 Pastoral poem (5)
- 9 Find out (5)
- 14 Window-fitter (7)
- 15 Whale fat (7)
- 16 Shakes hiccup (7)
- 19 Host of insects (5)
- 20 Common people (5)
- 21 Swimming-pool slide (5)

Some tips for the efficient gardener

GARDENING

INEZ KUMIST

LOTS of good tips for short-cuts and easier gardening come in from readers. Here are some recent ones, with my thanks to those who have shared their ideas.

Often when planting seeds, we seem to lose track of where we put them and end up pulling out what we think are weeds; sometimes we forget to water carefully and wash seedlings away. J.R. suggests that we mark planting rows with those small white plastic knives used for picnics. They are readily available at the supermarket, and you can write on them with a felt-tip pen. They are highly visible and will last several seasons.

If you are still starting seeds in boxes, here are four different ideas about how to do it. E.L. suggests using the plastic measuring cups that come in boxes of laundry detergent. Poke a hole in the bottom with a nail or other pointed object, cut off the handle with scissors, and you have a small pot. The square ones take up less space than the round

ones. R.T. uses the boxes from cookies, the ones with tops attached to them. She says that when you close the box you have a miniature greenhouse which helps the seeds to germinate in record time. Don't forget to open the top when the seeds have germinated. Let air circulate to prevent fungus.

G.P. advises saving egg cartons. In each egg case put half an empty eggshell with a hole poked carefully in the bottom. Fill each with a bit of soil, and presto, individual pots that can be gently crushed and thrown away when your plants are ready for the garden. I think this is an especially handy idea for larger seeds, which are easy to handle and can be put in one seed to a shell.

A.F. saves empty toilet-paper rolls all year long. He cuts them in half, stands them in a tray with

sides touching – for this I would use clear plastic vegetable boxes – and partially fills them with planting mix. He waters by pouring directly into the tray and pours off the excess. When planting out, bury the edge of the roll beneath ground level or peel it off. It can keep away moisture from the roots if you leave it on.

J.G. is involved in composting (as I am too). She saves all her vegetable kitchen scraps but doesn't like them standing around, so she freezes them in a plastic bag. She empties them (frozen) onto the compost pile once a week. This keeps the scraps from attracting flies in the kitchen and also breaks down the vegetable fibers for quicker decomposition when they have defrosted.

A SAFE, simple way to trap slugs came from G.H. Turn a small clay pot upside down on the ground near where the slugs are damaging your plants. Put another, larger clay pot over the top of it, and keep the two moist.

In three or four days you will find that the slugs have crawled into the space between the two pots. You can then scrape them into a plastic bag, tie it up tightly, and put them into the garbage can.

Here's an important reminder for those of us who have little space in which to store garden chemicals. E.T. notes that fumes of volatile herbicides may be absorbed by granular fertilizers. An unsuspecting gardener can ruin a prize plant by using a contaminated fertilizer. Be careful how you store your chemicals.

To this I want to add that since many of the chemicals we use are poisonous, be sure lids are tightly closed. Make sure there is no leakage from any jar or bag. Keep all chemicals clearly labeled. Cover labels with clear tape so they don't fade and become illegible. Keep directions for use together with the materials. Better safe than sorry.

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FERNAND



مکانم الناحیه

An Odyssey to Homer, the end of the road

Summer days in Alaska are long and lazy – for vacationers, Christopher Reynolds writes

MY problem in Homer, Alaska, wasn't the jay-walking moose or the cult of the halibut or the Spit Rats. In what may be the most celebrated small town on America's last frontier, my problem was the summer light. I felt obliged to keep exploring as long as it shone, and it just kept on shining.

This was late July, and every day, dawn would arrive around 5, casting a gray glow onto the smooth stones, bleached driftwood and silvery tides at Bishop's Beach, a block from my bed at the Driftwood Inn.

Then the sun would inch its way across the sky, the wind would snap and ease, and the 4,200 rumped and sweater-wrapped residents of Homer would begin their busy summer lives: hauling in hundred-pound (45 kg) halibut, throwing pots, steering seaplanes over glaciers, tidying their bed-and-breakfasts, piloting ferries across Kachemak Bay to Halibut Cove or the old Eskimo and Russian settlement at Seldovia. On their way, they'd pass messages to each other via the five-times-daily "bush line" of the public radio station, KBBI-AM 890.

"To Natasha: Bears are on the trail between the head of the bay and town. Take the low road. From Boris."

"To Bethany: Reminder that you have an appointment Tuesday at Dr. Todd's office."

Ten hours would go by this way, then 15, giving me plenty of time to hit the usual tourist highlights. But then I'd find myself passing time, happy but unfocused, at just about anything: combing the shoreline in search of a perfectly round stone; hiking randomly amid the green shrubs and purple flowers atop Ohlsen Mountain; taking a census of boat names in the small boat harbor; watching the dock dogs snap for fish scraps.

One morning I was back at Bishop's Beach looking at driftwood and stones, and found four teenage girls splashing in the chilly surf. But for the five of us, and a few distant specks about 2 km. along the shore, the beach was empty.



In Homer, Alaska, the 'Halibut Fishing Capital of the World,' charter fishing services operate from funky headquarters.

(Christopher Reynolds)

Beyond the bay, peeking through swirling clouds, lay jagged peaks, monumental fjords and a number of glaciers. The girls had come by car from Fort Wayne, Indiana, and this, they agreed, teeth chattering, was the best place yet – even better, they said, than the big mall in Edmonton, Alberta.

Late that night – or maybe it was early the next morning – I sat hunched in the din of the Salty Dawg (founded 1957, open until 4 a.m.), my shoes scraping in sawdust, my head surrounded by wall-mounted life preservers, my ears ringing with beer-fueled accounts of the day's fishing.

"Today was a big day," charter deckhand Dan Frisazuk told me. "A friend of mine, the first fish on his boat was a 208."

That would be 208 pounds (94 kg). The crew needed three shots to kill it. Large halibut are often shot lest their twitching tails break someone's legs.

Someone else had a story about another guy, a few days before, who didn't bother to spend the \$5 it takes to enter the Homer Jackpot Halibut Derby, then went out and caught a 300-pound (136 kg) fish.

His fish was the biggest of the summer so far, so the \$5 he saved might have ended up costing him a jackpot of something like \$18,000.

In this way I floated through the days and nights. Finally, each day, after 18 or so hours of light, at around 11 p.m., the last direct rays of the sun would throw a warm pink glow onto the line of

ragged peaks across the bay. Anglers would still be slouching around the Fishing Hole, and preteen kids, still sun-drunk, would be out riding bikes along the shoulder of East End Road.

Then would come a few hours of twilight, with the moon gleaming over the mountains and the still waters of the bay glowing like a great pane of glass, gas-jet blue.

At around 2 a.m., there would be a blink of darkness, under cover of which a high-living crew member could crawl home, change clothes, grab a bite and a quick nap, and head back out on another charter.

Which could account for the bumper sticker I saw in the harbor lot: "Have you flogged your crew today?"

HOMER, which lies on the Kenai Peninsula, is southern by Alaskan standards. As the eagle flies, it sits about 160 km. south of Anchorage, and more than 800 km. south of Fairbanks.

Though the mountains along the horizon never lose their snow, and the three-million-year-old Harding Icefield behind them never melts, Homer's location on the waters of Kachemak Bay keeps its temperatures moderate: around 15° in summer, and minus 6° in winter, with regular runs of rain, clouds and wind to keep things interesting.

(On my last day in town, the winds were so interesting that my "flight-seeing" expedition, to see glaciers and such by seaplane, was canceled.)

Moose roam freely. Bears

cross the bay swat at salmon in the cold river runoff. Whales, otters, puffins and scores of other birds live off the sea and shoreline, often within the protected territory of Kachemak Bay State Park. The halibut and salmon fisheries draw anglers by the thousands and sustain more than a dozen charter companies, which usually charge summer rates of around \$150 per person a day.

This raw landscape brings in plenty of visitors, especially in summer. Some of them take a look around at the rich, unfinished nature of the place, decide this is where the next chapter of their lives should begin and cease to be visitors.

More often, of course, strangers spend a few days in Homer on

the way to someplace else. About 115,000 tourists pass through Homer yearly, which puts tourism second only to fishing among local industries. (Sometimes, the two industries overlap more than folks here would like; the National Car Rental outlet levies \$100 fines against customers who bring back cars with interiors reeking of fish.)

But there's a whiff of culture in Homer's air too, and here and there the twinkle of New Age crystals. More than a dozen galleries fill their shelves and walls with the work of resident artists and craft workers.

The Smoky Bay Co-op stocks mango chutney and various organic wares for a large and devoted clientele. And in October 1989, voters declared the city a nuclear-free zone.

JUST ACROSS Kachemak Bay lies Halibut Cove, an artists' community of about 160 residents (40 in winter). Halibut Cove is accessible only by ferry, but nevertheless pulls in dozens of travelers daily, most of whom leave the Homer harbor at noon and return at 5 p.m. (adult round-trip fare: \$35).

Crossing the bay, passengers get a close-up view of the morse, puffin and other birds on Gull Island, then watch as the ferry pulls into a charming inlet with houses on pilings connected by a winding boardwalk.

Homer's tourism and fishing industries both begin with a geographical oddity called the Spit, which reaches 8 km. into the waters of Kachemak Bay. From the lookout point by the satellite dishes on Skyline Drive, the Spit looks like a long finger of sand.

To a walker on its millions of tide-worn rocks, it can sound as brittle as glass breaking underfoot. Some stretches of the Spit sink two meters into the bay in Alaska's 1964 Good Friday earthquake, but by then the local economy was built around it, and it continues to be the busiest place in town. It houses five boardwalks bristling with fishing charter services, tacky souvenir stands and seafood restaurants.

Nearby lie scores of camping spots, the Salty Dawg bar, a hotel called the Land's End Resort and, in summer, hundreds of tent campsites along the beach.

Most of the tent pilgrims: who also call themselves Spit Rats, arrive with the warm weather and many take jobs with charter companies.

Eager to underline the Spit's informal status as End of the Road, they tack up mileage signs announcing distances – to Paris, to Riverside (California), to Oconomowoc (Wisconsin) – and give their settlements names like Freedom Beach.

(Los Angeles Times)

See some of Europe without a visa

HOLDERS of Israeli passports do not need short-term tourist visas to Germany, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, or Belgium.

Those who do need visas to these countries can now use one 90-day visa for any of the above states in order to visit all of them. Among those who require visas to these countries are immigrants from the former Soviet Union who have not been in Israel long enough to acquire an Israeli passport, and residents of the territories traveling on a laissez-passer.

A SUPER-CHEAP program for car rental and motel accommodation in the US is being offered by a subsidiary of Med Cruises Ltd. Using coupons for Alamo car rental and such chains as Holiday Inn and Best Western, a couple can travel for a week in Florida for \$198 apiece. An 11-day tour of the western US would cost \$350 each.

MANO SEAWAYS is offering a

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

three-night Pessah cruise to Egypt and Cyprus for \$260 including full board and tours in Cyprus and to the Pyramids. The company is also offering a seven-day cruise for \$395.

WHAT IS described as a cheap time-sharing option, with a vacation week in a location such as South Africa selling for between \$4,990 and \$8,990, is being offered to holders of foreign exchange rights by Orca in Tel Aviv (tel. 03-627705).

The arrangement, the proprietors say, is definitely not for those who want to vacation in Israel every year, but rather for those who want to travel and use the time-sharing exchange rights. The secret to getting the exchange you want, says Orca head Randy Kern, is to request it very early, preferably a year in advance.

THE TEL AVIV Sheraton has joined the chain's 23 ITT Sheraton hotels in Europe in offering a 24-hour business center, with computers, fax machines, laser printing, and a shredder, as well as rental of laptops and cellular phones, and the option of secretarial, delivery and translating services. The hotel also has 16 new studio suites, suitable for the business traveler or small families.

COMPLIMENTARY coffee and tea in the room, complete with an electric kettle, are now available at Eliat's King Solomon and Royal Beach Hotels.

CLAL NOFESH, a new subsidiary of Clal Aviation, is offering introductory April prices for package vacations. Among the offerings, which include airfare, are seven nights in a four-star hotel in Antalya for \$539, four nights in London in a three-star hotel for \$399, and seven nights in Paris in a tourist-class hotel for \$626.

Beit Yannai: Quiet weeks, wild weekends

SEE IT HERE

HAIM SHAPIRO

ON a winter weekday, the Beit Yannai beach looks like a set for a Fellini film.

The sea pounds against the rocks, a stiff west wind blows up flurries of sand, and the wooden posts of what was once a pier stand out against the waves.

Legend has it that the pier was used in the days before the establishment of the state to land *ma'apilim*, the illegal immigrants who came in defiance of the British Mandatory restrictions.

But Dudi Shani, director of the national park which encompasses the beach, says the story is unfounded. "The truth is that not one immigrant ever landed here," he says.

There are two restaurants that seem to be made of scrap wood: one is closed and the other is almost empty. An elderly man, muffled against the wind, walks along the seashore.

ACCORDING TO Shani, all this changes on Friday about noon,

when hundreds of young people begin gathering there and transform the scene into a massive weekend happening.

They come from Hadera to the north and Netanya to the south, from as far away as Haifa and from dozens of villages and moshavim in between.

It is then that the two restaurants set out their tables on the sand and do a roaring trade.

Although they have other items on the menu, both are said to specialize in *jahnin*, a bread-like Yemenite specialty made of many layers of crisp dough, cooked on a flat iron griddle.

TO GET to Beit Yannai, take the Beit Yannai-Michmoret turnoff on the coastal road, about six kilometers north of Netanya.

Luckily for the residents of the moshav, one arrives at the beach before reaching the residential

part of the village, so the weekend gatherings are only a minor annoyance.

For those who seek true peace and quiet, there is an almost undiscovered stretch of coastline at the Hof Hasharon National Park, just a few kilometers south, where you can walk along the limestone cliffs overlooking the sea, and the wild terrain seems untouched. In fact, the National Parks Authority has gone to considerable effort and expense to restore the original plant life to the area.

The developed part of the park, which stretches for about a kilometer and a half, may be reached by entering Kibbutz Shefayim from the coastal highway.

Follow the signs to the riding stables, and when you reach the stables continue on the dirt road until you come to the park, a fenced-in stretch along the coast.

For the easiest entrance into the park, continue driving along the fence until you reach the northern gate.

This is usually locked to keep out vehicles, but beside it there is an entrance for those on foot.

There is no running water, but there are a few benches and picnic tables.

In cool weather, the park is pleasant during the day, but in hot weather, the best time to visit is in the evening.

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Save Lives!
A 19-year-old girl who was born with a kidney malfunction and who has had three operations to allow her to live, requires dialysis three times a week.

Her father recently left his business and took her abroad for a transplant. The doctors are pleased with the results of the operation and hope she will be able to live a normal life and get married.

The father, in addition to having left his business, now also has to meet tremendous medical expenses; he has already had two heart attacks and is in an unbearable situation.

WHO CAN STAND ALOOF AND SAY "IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM"?

Messages from supporters of this appeal:
I rejoice on hearing of the successful operation and the doctors' opinion that she will be able to raise a good Jewish family. I therefore appeal to you to help them pay the medical expenses and help her build her own home.
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or deposit donation in
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Rabbi Yosef Moshovitz
Rabbi of Kfar Yehoshua, 28 Givat Shimon, Jerusalem



Colette Avital, Israeli consul-general in NY, rendezvoused with friend and foe on the information superhighway. (D. Karp)

Consul on computer

It was another first in cyberspace — an on-line conference with an Israeli diplomat, Marilyn Henry reports from New York

SEATED by a computer at her office in midtown Manhattan, Colette Avital, our consul-general in New York, met with friend and foe in cyberspace last week when Israel inaugurated on-line diplomacy.

From computers across the US, in Venezuela and Europe, some 90 people logged on to the new Israel Forum and tapped in questions to the consulate on topics ranging from the peace process and terrorism to aliya and the cost of living in Israel.

Forum moderator: Dan, go ahead.

There was an informality and a surreal intimacy as people jumped into the interactive computer press conference. Their questions flashed on the screen, and Avital dictated her answers to a typist.

Forum moderator: Dan, go ahead please.

If this one-hour session was the gateway to a new era in diplomatic relations, it showed that the future shares some striking characteristics with the past. The tone can get peevish in cyberspace.

Sandy: As I read in the paper more Israelis are being killed...

Joseph: I have not sent the [question]. It is a bit long...

Sandy: Do you ever wonder if the peace process is worth it?

Joseph: Please, Sandy. I asked the [question] from Ambassador Avital. I already know how you feel.

Avital: We will respond to Joseph...

The rendezvous was arranged through the Israel Forum, a commercial service in Hebrew and English on the international computer network. The forum, which opened on March 2, is the project of Lisa and Giora Shimon, a tenacious Israeli-American couple.

"When we lived in Israel, we felt cut off from the Jewish community in the States," the Ohio-based Shimonis explained through cyberspace. "[Living] in the States, we feel cut off from daily life and events in Israel. The Israel Forum is a means of connecting the international Jewish community. You can sit in your home in Oregon, Budapest, Tokyo or Haifa, and you can get in

touch with what is happening in other Jewish communities."

The forum includes libraries of materials about Israel as well as "conference rooms" in which forum members can talk on-line.

Earlier this month, people were able to talk to Avital by home computer. They will have the chance to chat with another envoy next month, when UN ambassador Gad Ya'acobi is scheduled to venture into cyberspace.

Forum moderator: Go ahead, Connie. Claudia, you are after Connie. And then Avraham.

The Israeli government is far from a novice driver on the information superhighway. It distributes an on-line summary of the daily Hebrew press to an estimated 8,000 subscribers worldwide and maintains a data base of government documents that is believed to attract 10,000 users a day.

Forum moderator: Please, one at a time. Let the ambassador finish speaking. Paul, you can ask your question now.

The conversation was both political and personal. Avital adroitly segued from telling Claudia that "Jerusalem is marvelous ... and a good place for young women," to a question about the outlawing of the Kach Party.

Forum moderator: Eitan, your turn. Then it will be Connie's turn.

THERE WERE a few technical glitches, and the system has some limitations. There was little opportunity for a dialogue with the diplomat, or for follow-up questions. Rather, the session was question-and-answer style.

While the polite queued up to ask questions, some didn't realize they were expected to wait in line. Meanwhile, others barged in. "Conferencing" can be a free-for-all.

Joel: Why does the government expect [terrorism] to abate?

Dan: What democratic means are you ready to impose to keep Israel Jewish?

Ricardo: Israel was never Jewish.

Forum moderator: Joel, go ahead please.

Avital: To answer Joel's question...

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NEIL COHEN

Financial Editor, The Jerusalem Post

"Banking Benefits for Seniors"

MONDAY, APRIL 3 - 4:00 p.m.

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REFRESHMENTS

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GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

THOUGH its popularity may be waning at the polls back home, the Clinton administration is still popular among Americans studying at the Hebrew University's Rothberg School for Overseas Students. The youngsters loudly cheered Vice President Al Gore when he appeared on campus last week to receive an honorary doctorate and displayed a hidden talent as a stand-up comedian.

Generally regarded as less than sparkling, Gore made fun of himself. "Al Gore is such a boring personality," he said, "that the Secret Service code name for him is Al Gore." If that one goes down as well on the campaign trail as it did at the Mount Scopus amphitheater, Gore might find himself serving a second term.

Also in the audience was one of the Rothberg School's most celebrated alumni — newly appointed US Ambassador Martin Indyk.

NAMED BY the Israel Public Relations Association as Communications Man of the Year, in recognition of his orchestration of peace-process ceremonies,

veteran Yediot Aharonot military correspondent Eitan Haber, who is currently chief of the Prime Minister's Office, reminisced at last week's award ceremony at the Tel Aviv Sheraton that he had initially refused Yitzhak Rabin's invitation to head his office.

But Rabin called him again after their meeting to ask when Haber's son was being drafted into the army. When Haber told him it would be in another year and a half, Rabin said "so come and let's make peace first." It was an offer Haber couldn't refuse.

ORGANIZERS AND participants alike expected the 15th Jerusalem Conference of Mayors to be a harmonious affair. But they didn't anticipate just how harmonious it would be until the McGuire Sisters turned on an impromptu class act at Jerusalem's City Hall at the opening cocktail reception hosted by Mayor Ehud Olmert. The trio — Christine, Phyllis and Dorothy — arrived in Haifa over the weekend on the SS Rotterdam and subsequently

lunched with Hebrew University vice president Moshe Arad, who invited them to add a high note to the conference. They obliged by singing their signature song, "May You Always Walk in Sunshine," after which they were mobbed by American mayors who posed for photos for the folks back home. Not to be outdone, Olmert and Amos Rabin, his adviser on policy, did likewise.

AS A boy in his native Holland, Israel Museum director Martin Weyl was singularly unenthusiastic about practicing the art of table manners. Whenever he protested about being made to use his knife and fork just so, his mother would say, "One day you may be invited to dine with the queen." It seems she had the gift of prophecy. Weyl was among the guests invited to the gala dinner given by President Ezer Weizman in honor of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and Prince Claus.

Also at the dinner was Dutch-born Manfred Klaffer who had no trouble making conversation with the queen. "Do you remember going to the Apollo Perfume Store to buy Caron perfume for your mother?" asked Klaffer, a Holocaust survivor who serves as president of AMCHA, an organization which provides psychological counseling for first and second generation Holocaust survivors.

Surprised, the queen affirmed that she did, but wondered aloud how Klaffer could possibly know about that. A smiling Klaffer disclosed that he had owned the shop after World War II, and would never forget the exciting day when the young princess stepped in to purchase the favorite fragrance of her mother, Queen Juliana.

DECORUM REMAINED little more than a word in the dictionary at the Wohl Rose Park as guests attending the Jerusalem Foundation dedication ceremony of Holland Garden — a gift from the people of Maastricht to the people of Jerusalem — scrambled to catch a glimpse of Queen Beatrix and her entourage as they made their way to seats allocated for the official party. In their excitement, the crowd trampled the lawn and some of the flower beds. Among those who observed the rules of protocol and remained in her seat was Irene Israeli, one of less than a handful of Maastricht natives in Israel's Dutch community. An employee at one of the consulates stationed in Jerusalem, Israeli is practiced in exercising restraint.

THE POPULAR and attractive Dutch monarch, whose style of dress is much more fluid and less constructed than that of Queen Elizabeth of England, also favors larger hats than her British counterpart. During her visit, Queen Beatrix sported several high-crowned, wide-brimmed confections.

HOLLAND WAS well represented in the capital this week. In addition to Queen Beatrix, there were Dr. J. Van den Berg, secretary-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, who represented his country at the Conference of Heads of Ministries for Foreign Affairs; and Mayor of the Hague the Hon. Dr. Ad J.E. Havermans, who attended the Jerusalem Conference of Mayors.

SHISHI NASHI. This chi-chi title which sounds like something on a Japanese menu is actually the name of a new monthly Friday get-together for career women who want to network, discuss important issues and catch up with the latest fashions. The group, which is the brainchild of Michal Gal, director of public relations and customer services at the Moriah Plaza Jerusalem, held its founding brunch last Friday, attracting guests from Haifa, Herzliya and Kfar Sava. Issues discussed included spousal lines of communication, the future of education and the advancement of women's interests and influence.

Labor MK Dalia Itzik, who chairs the Knesset education committee, was opposed to both a guaranteed women's quota, which would ensure that a minimum number of women would be elected to the Knesset, and a women's political party running for Knesset. But lawyer Ettie Simha, a former prime minister's adviser on the status of women, thought differently. Admitting that she had previously been against a women's party, Simha said she had come to the conclusion that the only way to wield power and influence was as a Knesset party. "Look at Shas," she argued. "They're running the country." Women, who represent 51% of the population, should have at least as much say

in the policy-making process, Simha said.

GUESTS ATTENDING the St. Patrick's Day celebrations hosted by Irish Ambassador Liam Rigney and Honorary Irish Consul Zvi Levy at the Accadia Hotel, Herzliya, may have thought the Guinness had gone to their heads when they saw not one Rigney, but two. The ambassador had brought along his identical twin brother, George. The two were distinguishable only by virtue of their ties. The envoy, in keeping with the occasion, chose one with a traditional green background, whereas his brother sported one with a red background.

LINKS WHICH Turkish Ambassador Onur Gokce and his wife, Aytul, forged with Israel will not be severed. Gokce told guests at a round of farewell parties in their honor. Though they spent less than three years here, the couple did much to promote their country as a tourist destination, an investment opportunity and a fashion mecca. At the reception, hosted by Edith Rojansky, hon-

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MITZPEH RAMAT RAHEL Relax and enjoy Seder Pessach at "The Only Kibbutz Hotel in Jerusalem" Robi Chaim Wolfish Official Tel. 702506 for reservations



The McGuire Sisters (above) help make the Jerusalem Conference of Mayors, hosted by Ehud Olmert, a harmonious affair; Irish envoy Liam Rigney (r.), along with identical twin brother George, wear different ties to keep St. Patrick's Day guests from seeing double. (Efrain Kishitok)

and generation Holocaust survivors. Surprised, the queen affirmed that she did, but wondered aloud how Klaffer could possibly know about that. A smiling Klaffer disclosed that he had owned the shop after World War II, and would never forget the exciting day when the young princess stepped in to purchase the favorite fragrance of her mother, Queen Juliana.

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הכזמן האחרון

BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1995

Lifeline for dollar as Bundesbank cuts interest

LONDON (Reuters) - The beleaguered dollar grabbed a temporary lifeline and halted its higher yesterday when Germany defied market forecasts and cut interest rates.

The US currency soared more than three pennies and one yen after the powerful Bundesbank stunned the market with a cut in the discount lending rate to four percent from 4.5%, and the short-term repo rate to 4.5% from 4.85%.

It left the Lombard rate unchanged at six percent.

But analysts said the central bank's move would neither reverse deep-rooted, negative dollar sentiment nor would it dent the market's armor against weaker European currencies for long.

It has taken the sting out of the market

for the time being," said Robin Marshall, chief economist at Chase Investment Bank in London. "But beyond the short-term, the dollar still looks weak."

The dollar briefly pierced 1.42 marks and 90 yen before slipping back on profit-taking to above 1.41 and 89 - levels at which it started the week. The US currency hit record lows against the yen and mark this month.

Switzerland followed Germany's example and lopped half a point from its discount rate, prompting the Swiss franc to swing back from recent peaks, bowing to the dollar and mark.

The Bundesbank said that the deceleration of a slowdown in German M3 money supply growth and the strength of the mark on the currency markets justified easing

credit.

Economists were divided on whether the move was justified by domestic factors, or whether the Bundesbank had been swayed by the intense international pressure to rein in the rampant mark.

Straggling European currencies such as sterling, the Swedish crown and Iberian currencies soared against the tarnished mark.

In the longer term, the dollar faces fundamental problems such as Mexico's financial crisis, sparked by December's currency devaluation and the size of the US trade deficit.

David Brown, economist at US bank Bear Stearns in London, said a US interest rate rise remained the only real cure for the dollar's ills. The U.S. central bank's

policy-making arm met on Tuesday but left rates unchanged.

But the dollar may soon get a further boost if, as expected, the Bank of Japan cuts interest rates. "People think the BOJ might cut the [official discount rate, currently at 1.75 percent] by 50 or 75 basis points [0.5 or 0.75 points] by the end of the week," one London trader said.

European stock exchanges showed their approval of Germany's rate cut by rallying sharply, invigorated by the dollar's new-found lease of life.

Shares in Paris and Frankfurt romped ahead more than two percent on the news, and London's stock exchange powered 1.4% forward. But wary dealers cautioned markets against getting carried away and pushing prices too high.

United Mizrahi Bank earnings down 37.8%

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

UNITED Mizrahi Bank yesterday reported a 37.8% fall in net earnings for 1994, to NIS 95.4 million, from NIS 153.3m. the previous year.

The net profit reflects an annual return on equity of 7.7%, down from 14.1% in 1993. Fourth quarter net profits fell to NIS 7.7m. from NIS 40.86m. in the fourth quarter of 1993.

Managing director David Blumberg blamed the plunge on a 52% decrease in commission income from securities business.

The bank's net profit decreased by NIS 78m., as a result of the slowdown in capital market activity. Blumberg said capital market activities account for about 14% of Mizrahi's total activities.

"I do not think we need to reduce our capital market activity, but it is necessary to strengthen other activities. Last year, we established a general credit division and expanded credit given to households. The bank also expanded its non-banking operations," said Blumberg.

The decrease was also due to a drop in earnings from the bank's international activities abroad, mainly because of Mizrahi's subsidiaries in New York and Switzerland.

Most of Mizrahi's profit last year derived from Tefahot Mortgage Bank, the bank's largest subsidiary. Tefahot contributed NIS 78.9m. to Mizrahi's earnings, up from NIS 62.58m. the previous year.

Profit from financing operations before provision for doubtful debts fell 10.6% to NIS 620.9m. Management said the drop was mainly due to the cessation of oversubscribed new issues, which had generated income of about NIS 65.6m. in 1993, and from the continued trend of diminishing fi-

nanial margins. The provision for doubtful debts decreased 58.4% to NIS 68.7m., despite the fact that during the fourth quarter large provisions were recorded by the New York subsidiary.

Operating and other income fell 14.5% to NIS 490m. from NIS 573.1m. The bank's operating and other expenses increased 1.7% to NIS 558.8m. Blumberg, who will be stepping down from his post in the coming month, earned NIS 169,000 per month.

Subsidiary companies' contribution to the group's profit fell 30.2% to NIS 59.2m. from NIS 85.1m.

Mizrahi's share in foreign subsidiaries losses increased to NIS 28m. from NIS 8.8m. The group's share of the loss of United Mizrahi Bank & Trust Company (New York) increased to \$4.4m. from a loss of \$2.7m. The loss was blamed mainly on provisions for doubtful debt made in respect of loans provided at the end of the 1980's.

Bank Mizrahi share of the loss of United Mizrahi Bank (Switzerland) was 4.9 million Swiss Francs, compared with a net profit of 1m. Swiss Francs in 1993. The bank said the loss derives from a provision for doubtful debts of \$4m. made by the bank as a result of an exceptional occurrence resulting from the bank's failure to receive adequate guarantees on behalf of credit given to two customers.

The international activities results were partly offset by improved results from the branches in London and Los Angeles.

Total assets reached NIS 33.4b. from NIS 32.3b. Credit to the public grew 13.5% to NIS 25.8b. Deposits by the public rose 12.9% to NIS 16.9b.

IAI cuts losses more than half for '94

NEIL COHEN

ISRAEL Aircraft Industries (IAI) registered a sharp improvement in its fortunes in 1994, the company reported yesterday, but it did not manage a return to profitability.

The company lost \$40 million, compared with a loss of \$87m. in 1993. The company's goal is to break even this year.

IAI said that it had been hurt to the tune of \$20m. by the strength of the shekel against the dollar. The operating loss before finance costs was only \$7m.

Sales were static at \$1.45 billion.

as was the order book at \$2.5b. However, gross profits rose to \$138m. from \$93m. in 1993, and the company won new orders of \$1.457b. versus \$1.322b. in 1993. The company continued to reduce its work force, which has fallen over the last two years to 13,400, from 17,500. Productivity increased, with sales per employee up 14% to \$101,000, from \$89,000 in 1993.

Vice president of finance

Shmuel Peretz said that the company had met the targets it set in the first year of its three-year recovery plan and noted that before debt repayment IAI had generated positive cash flow of \$41m.

The company, he added, was current with its interest payments on the \$300m. it owes local banks but is seeking to extend the maturity of some of this debt. Peretz said that the company's equity base, at \$40m. is too small and makes borrowing from banks more difficult.

Avner reports first profit in years

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

AVNER Insurance, the pool company which compensates automobile accident victims, yesterday reported a net profit of NIS 22.04m. for 1994, after many years of losses.

The company completed 1993 with a net loss of NIS 309.15m. Avner's chairman Haim Stoessel said the profit reduced the company's accumulated deficit to NIS 925m. from NIS 1.1bn.

He attributed the turnaround to the 15% rise of compulsory insurance tariffs in August 1993. The profits were also due to implementation of efficiency measures, especially in negotiations of insurance claims and lowering of management fees to lawyers. In addition, the improvement resulted from halting the company's issuing of automobile insurance in the territories.

"The hemorrhaging has stopped," said Stoessel. "For the first time in many years we do not have a loss. But one year is not sufficient, we have to see if the trend continues in 1995 and 1996. In any case, the company's situation is much better."

The company reported that 1.36 million vehicles were registered with it last year, compared with 1.26m. the previous year. The number of reported accident victims went down to 35,562 from 37,522. To date Avner has compensated some 800,000 accident victims.

Avner's profits from investments in the capital market halved to NIS 22m. last year, reflecting the sharp drop in the value of securities traded on the stock exchange.

Two Carmel Bank shareholders agree to sell major share block

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TWO of Carmel Bank's major shareholders, attorney Haim Katzman and accountant Rafael Reich, have signed an agreement to sell around 18 percent of the bank's shares to Jackie Bar, one of Tempo Industries' major shareholders, for \$4.8 million.

According to the agreement, the shares will be sold for NIS 7.5 per share, about 30% higher than

the price of Carmel shares on the stock exchange.

Before the purchase, Bar held 6% of Carmel Bank's shares. The transaction, which is subject to the approval of the Bank of Israel, will make Bar the bank's controlling shareholder.

Bar has reached an agreement with the Engineers Advanced Study Fund whereby the fund will join him in a consortium to gain major control of Carmel Bank. Together with the fund, which owns some 9% of the bank's shares, Bar will head a consortium owning just over a third of Carmel Bank's shares. Katzman and Reich will continue to hold 12% of the bank's shares between them.

Four major shareholders have controlled Carmel Bank in the last seven years: Katzman, Reich, Eli Kind and Eitan Shamir.

IDB Holdings reports fall in net profits

IDB Holdings reported a fall in 1994 net profits to NIS 40m. from NIS 247m. in 1993. Annual revenues were NIS 1.28m., down from NIS 1.45m., and earnings per share fell to NIS 0.21 from NIS 1.03.

Quarterly net profits were NIS 7m., compared to NIS 43.7m., and quarterly revenues were NIS 240m., compared to NIS 226.5m.

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WORLD MARKET REPORTS

- The US T-bond market is unchanged on the week with the benchmark 30yr bond yielding 7.37%. Interest rates did not change after the FOMC meeting, and while there is a consensus that US rates will have to go up by 100-150bps by the year-end, there is no immediate pressure for them to do so.
- The US equity market is at the top of an upward trending channel, and the DJIA index should experience a correction in April, as the recent strength has been narrowly-based on high-tech stocks and selected blue-chips, reflecting quarter-end "window-dressing".
- The UK June long gilt future retreated from above 103-00, landing on Wednesday in the face of disappointing cover for the 22nd offering of 8% 2015 stock. The market is well supported at 102-17 and if the future can close the 102-28 - 102-29 gap opened Wednesday, it should try to break resistance at 103-05 for a fourth attempt on 103-20.
- The UK FT-100 index encountered resistance at 3105-05, and 3150 has also become a resistance point. There is little support at 3110 and the index is expected to close at 3088. The UK market has underperformed the US, so if the DJIA does correct, the UK market should not suffer to the same extent. On the other hand, the UK market offers considerably more upside, given that UK valuations are attractive and US valuations are looking stretched. We mentioned ICI (ICLL, 737) at 717p last week - after the 2.8% rise in the stock price, there are buyers looking to get in on a profit-taking. We also mentioned BTR (BTRL, 328) at 322p, which has barely moved on the week - we are seeing continued interest in the stock at these levels.
- The Hong Kong market ran into resistance above 8800 and the major market players have gone quiet. Encouraging government land auctions have not had a marked effect and momentum is fading. The market needs more consolidation before attempting higher levels. First support should be around 8600.
- The Kuala Lumpur market has finally got the pre-election bit between the teeth and is trying hard to mount another attack on the 1000 level, completing the extended head-and-shoulders pattern. Our clients have been buying United Engineers (Malaysia) Bhd. (UTEMKL, MYR14.50).
- The Bombay market was unsettled by having to close for three days to settle a broker default. The SEBI has proposed the re-introduction of forward trading, which it is hoped will both improve market liquidity (liquidity is a significant factor in holding the market back at the moment) and increase transparency. The default will have more to moderate stock exchange trading in India and therefore, will pervasively turn out to have been a good thing. The market seems to be forming a base around 5200 on the BSE-Sensex Index. Most large players are quiet with only two days to go before the financial year-end.
- There is producer selling appearing into every day that gold bullion makes. It failed to break through \$353.50/oz yesterday, but there are enough short positions in the market to make it likely that another attempt will be made to go higher.

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Commercial rand/Stg	5.764	5.761	-0.41%
Interest rates:			
Money market (BAs)	13.30%	13.30%	0.00%
Escom 2008	15.76%	15.68%	0.51%
Escom 2020	16.72%	16.77%	-0.30%
RSA 150	15.44%	15.44%	0.00%
UAL Max Income	14.84%	14.65%	1.30%
OM Investors	18.40/3024	18.08/306	-1.42%
Escom 168	69.70/561	70.138	-0.49%
Guardbank	34.76/19	34.98/22	-0.65%
UAL Gift	12.04/47	12.03/13	0.11%
Max Income	10.03/52	10.01/34	0.22%
De Beers	88.90	87.50	1.14%
Val Reef	241.00	260.00	-7.31%
Anglo American	196.00	202.25	-3.09%
Barlows	35.75	36.00	-0.69%
SA Brews	99.75	101.00	-1.24%
Sasol	34.00	34.85	-2.44%
Tiger Oats	49.50	49.75	-0.50%
Isacor	4.54	4.73	-4.02%
JSE Actuaries Overall	5.212	5.309	-1.82%

RY - running yield.

Comment of UAL Maximum Income Fund Manager: In the last few weeks, the UAL MIF has increased its current yield to approx. 17%pa and will be shortly increasing it further to above 16%pa, at which time its yield will be higher than the RV of the ETR. With the latest bank rate hike of 1% and the abandonment of the Fin. Rand, we feel confident that long term rates are not set to increase substantially. Consequently, we are increasing the average maturity of the portfolio to benefit from the higher yields available. This will increase the volatility of the capital, however, because of our cautious approach until now, we have avoided steep losses in Escom, despite paying a higher dividend. This is becoming increasingly difficult using short-dated gilts and consequently, as the MIF aims to guarantee income, we have adopted the above approach. I would like to stress, though, that the Fund is still less volatile than the Escom ETR.

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Treasury plans secondary mortgage market in 6 months

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE Treasury is planning to open within six months a secondary mortgage market, which will enable the government to significantly reduce its involvement in the capital market.

A committee appointed by the Treasury recommended that the account-general to create a framework for trading mortgage-backed securities to be issued by financial agents, to provide mortgage banks with an instrument to raise capital through the capital market.

Since approximately 50 percent of the mortgages in the market are backed and subsidized by the government, the Treasury will use this large pool to establish the secondary mortgage market. The government's involvement in the creation of the market is justified based on the fact that the private sector is not willing to absorb the learning curve costs, said the account-general's economic adviser Eyal Lapidot.

However, since the government-backed mortgages are not extended based on repayment capacity criteria, but as entitlements, the government will initially provide insurance that will cover the risk of non-payment and interest rate changes. Lapidot noted that at a later stage the insurance will be provided by the private sector.

Investment banks will take the mortgage portfolio of mortgage banks and will break it up into financial instruments with differing cash flows, yields and risk, which will trade like bonds. As a result, the government will not have to borrow money in the capital market to finance mortgages and instead it will only have to subsidize the interest on the mortgages.

Lapidot estimates that it will save about NIS 3 billion annually from the budget and take the government out of the business of being a financial agent. Since mortgages make up a significant portion of the capital market at about NIS 17b., Lapidot calls the proposed changes "a major reform." He added that Israel will be the only country outside the US with a secondary mortgage market.

If the US model serves as a good indicator, the secondary market will help bring down mortgage prices. Lapidot cautioned, however, that this would only happen over the long term. These changes will not affect the benefits of those entitled to government-backed mortgages.

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

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U.S. dollar (loan for)	4.75%	4.12%	3.75%
Pound sterling (200,000)	4.50%	3.82%	4.12%
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.37%	2.62%	3.00%
Swiss franc (CHF 200,000)	0.65%	0.50%	0.57%

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (30.3.95)

Currency	Buy	Sell	Bank of Israel
U.S. dollar	2.3410	2.4870	2.4000
German mark	2.1489	2.2628	2.2000
Pound sterling	4.7488	4.8158	4.7818
French franc	0.0205	0.0215	0.0208
Japanese yen (100)	3.3507	3.3958	3.3500
Dutch florin	1.9045	1.9317	1.9150
Swiss franc	2.5895	2.6228	2.5800
Spanish peseta	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
Danish krone	0.0791	0.0818	0.0790
Swedish krona	0.0494	0.0503	0.0490
Canadian dollar	0.6707	0.6822	0.6700
Finland mark	2.1021	2.1317	2.1000
Australian dollar	2.1915	2.2414	2.1900
S. African rand	1.0375	1.0222	1.0200
Belgian franc (10)	3.0293	3.0791	3.0200
Austrian schilling (10)	1.7163	1.7405	1.7200
Italian lire (1000)	—	—	4.2000
Jordanian dinar	—	—	0.8500
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.8500
Irish punt	3.2641	3.3389	3.2600
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GIVAT HANASSI, 4; service yard,

02-phones to get seven-digit numbers

JUDY SIEGEL

STARTING Tuesday at midnight, 16,000 phone lines in Jerusalem and 11,000 lines elsewhere in the 02 area code will have seven-digit phone numbers.

The process of adding a digit to Jerusalem-district phone numbers will continue through the end of 1997, according to Bezeq.

Jerusalem-area numbers starting with 5 (connected to the Givat Shaul exchange) will now have a 6 added to the beginning of the numbers; those starting with 9 (who are linked to the Beit Shmush exchange) will get an added prefix of 9.

Until now, seven-digit numbers have been used only in the Dan region. The increased demand for phone lines has required the expanded use of seven-digit numbers, which are used in the US and many other Western countries. Eventually, all phone numbers in the country will have seven digits, and local area codes will be abolished.

Aside from thousands of homes and offices, the changes affect a number of well-known Jerusalem institutions, including the Givat Ram campus of the Hebrew University and Shaare Zedek Hospital, whose numbers will now start with a 6. Affected subscribers were informed of the change some nine months ago, so they could plan for it.

Bezeq says a recorded announcement will inform callers of the new number for six months; anyone who needs this to be extended for another six months may call 199, and it will be done free.

Owners of fax machines, however, will have to inform callers of their new number.

RAMMING

(Continued from Page 1)

have to consider both possibilities. The investigation is still proceeding.

But sources close to Hefetz last night downplayed his statement the incident might have been an accident.

"The inspector-general was only saying that it cannot be said yet with 100 percent certainty that it was a terror attack," said one source, "but all indications so far indicate it was an attack. However, there are still things that must be checked about the truck - whether there were any malfunctions in the truck."

The two policemen killed in the incident, Border Police Insp. Nitzan Cohen and Israel Police Sgt.-Maj. Jamal Suwilat, were buried yesterday.

Cohen, 22, was buried in the police section of the Mount Herzl Military Cemetery in Jerusalem. He is survived by his parents and two brothers.

Suwilat, 23, was buried in Kfar Makr in Western Galilee. He is survived by his parents, wife, and two children.

The condition of the two wounded policemen, Yosef Ben-tov, 42, of Yeroham, and Amar Assam, 25, from the Druse village of Horfeish, improved yesterday.

Ben-tov, the father of three, underwent extensive surgery Wednesday night to repair broken bones and internal injuries. He was still in the intensive care unit yesterday.

Assam, who suffered injuries to various parts of his body, is expected to be moved out of intensive care to a regular ward today.

Amir Rozenblit and Itim contributed to this report.

RUSSIAN FM

(Continued from Page 1)

originally purchased by Czar Nicholas II's brother, Prince Sergei, before the Russian revolution. Some of these properties, purchased as hostels for use by Russian citizens making pilgrimages, are in the Jerusalem area.

"Our view on properties is that we will give Russia those properties that do not open us to legal suit from any potential third parties in the former Soviet Union or elsewhere," a Foreign Ministry official said, but refused to specify how many properties would be turned over.

There is speculation that Kozirev may ask for the pardon of a Russian spy imprisoned here.

On Monday, Kozirev is expected to visit the Galilee before departing.

'MIRACLE'

(Continued from Page 1)

baby so young? If it should happen in anyone in the world, why an infant?

Before the age of 18 months, babies have little or no immune system to combat infections. Normally, babies get disease-fighting capabilities from their mother's milk. But this boy's mother did not breast-feed the child, for fear she might pass on more HIV.

In an editorial in the journal, *Dr. Kenneth McIntosh and Sandra Burchett of Children's Hospital in Boston* posit that there may be other babies who routinely perform the seemingly miraculous feat of eliminating HIV. Only about 30 percent of the babies born to HIV-positive mothers in the US develop AIDS. (Newsday)

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- Netanya
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NETANYA, Unique sea front duplex penthouse, 5 1/2 rooms, \$575,000, Tel. 09-621972.

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Court: Fatherhood cannot be forced

AN estranged husband has the right to prevent his wife from using eggs fertilized *in vitro* with his sperm to produce a baby, the Supreme Court ruled yesterday in a 4-1 decision.

Ruti Nahmani was unable to bear children, so she and her husband, Danny, decided in 1988 to have her eggs fertilized with his sperm *in vitro*, and then implant the fertilized egg in a surrogate mother in the US.

In 1992, however — after the eggs had been taken and fertilized, but before they had been delivered to the surrogate — Danny left Ruti and moved in with another woman, with whom he has since had a child. He then told Ruti he was no longer interested in having a child by her, and denied Assuta Hospital permission to release the eggs.

Ruti filed suit in the Haifa Dis-

trict Court, which ruled in her favor. Danny had initially agreed to have the child, the court said, and he could not withdraw his agreement once the fertilization operation had been performed.

Danny appealed to the Supreme Court, arguing that he had been deprived of his right not to be a parent. Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair, who was asked by the court for and opinion, since the issue was a matter of public importance, sided with him, as did Justices Aharon Barak, Dov Levine, Yitzhak Zamir, and Tova Strasberg-Cohen. Justice Zvi Tal dissented.

Strasberg-Cohen, who wrote the majority opinion, noted that in most of the Western world, the husband's consent is required at every stage of an *in vitro* fertilization. In Israel, the issue is dealt with only in regulations, rather

EVELYN GORDON

than in law, and the district court interpreted these regulations to be at odds with this principle. However, Strasberg-Cohen said, this was incorrect.

"If a woman ... is divorced, and the egg was fertilized with her husband's sperm before the divorce — the egg shall be implanted only with the consent of her former husband," the regulations state. While the Nahmanis never actually divorced, said Strasberg-Cohen, the principle is clearly the same.

Given the "intimate" nature of the initial agreement Danny made with his wife, she continued, it was clear that he did not intend it to remain in force under any circumstances. But even if he had, she said, the agreement would still be unenforceable.

By law, a contract cannot be enforced if it involves "forcing someone to do, or accept, personal work or service." A writer, for instance, cannot be contractually forced to produce a book. Similarly, said Strasberg-Cohen, a man cannot be contractually forced to become a parent, since this would violate his fundamental human rights.

"It is not appropriate for the legal system to muster its might to force parenthood on someone who doesn't want it," she said. In his dissenting opinion, however, Tal argued that the right to have a child is "a woman's most basic right," which "dwarfs the inconvenience of 'forced' parenthood" — and all the justices agreed that the eggs fertilized by Danny were almost certainly Ruti's last chance at motherhood. "It is not appropriate for the

legal system to muster its might to force barrenness on someone who doesn't want it," he wrote, paraphrasing Strasberg-Cohen. "The right to be a parent is one of the most fundamental human rights, anchored in the existential longings of the individual and of society as a whole."

However, he said, the court was forcing barrenness on Ruti, because if the process started by the Nahmanis were allowed to take its natural course, Ruti would have a baby.

Tal noted that if a woman had lied to a man, saying she was using contraceptives when she was not, and conceived a child, no one would say the woman should be forced to have an abortion.

"In a competition [between two interpretations], he said, "it seems to me that the more just solution should be preferred."

'Halacha requires both parents' approval'

JUDY SIEGEL

"MY heart is with Ruti Nahmani, but logic and Jewish law go with her estranged husband Danny," said Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Halperin, a gynecologist, fertility specialist, and head of the Schlesinger Institute on Jewish Medical Ethics in Jerusalem.

After hearing the verdict, he said the case was an unfortunate one, but an example of the very complicated issues that result from modern medical intervention in the process of fertility. According to Halacha, fertilized ova may be implanted only with permission of both the father and the mother.

But Halperin asserted that the 11 embryos should remain frozen in storage and not be destroyed, because of their potential to bring life.

"And maybe the husband will change his mind someday. The embryos can be preserved that way for 20 years."

Although the Supreme Court's ruling might seem unfair to Ruti Nahmani, who now has virtually no chance of having her own baby by surrogate, Halperin said a man could not be forced to become a father against his will, even though he had consented to the implantation in a surrogate when still living with his wife.

"Consider the opposite possibility: that a man became infertile after undergoing cancer treatment and insisted that his wife become pregnant with his stored sperm against her will. That too would be wrong."

Doctor regrets woman's lost opportunity for motherhood

JUDY SIEGEL

PROF. Shlomo Mashiah, the Sheba Hospital gynecologist who performed the *in vitro* fertilization of the Nahmani embryos five years ago, regrets that Ruti Nahmani won't be able to have a child of her own.

"Her lawyer should have placed more stress on the fact that a ruling against implantation takes away her last chance to have a baby, while Danny may have as many children as he likes," Mashiah said. "She was about 38 when the ova were removed and fertilized. Now she is nearly 43, and even if she tries again, the chance of good quality embryos being produced is very small."

Mashiah noted that the case was very sad. "She contributed a lot to the fight for recognition of surrogacy in Israel. The Nahmanis exposed their private story to make a public issue. As a result, very soon

surrogacy will be legal in Israel." He added that if the couple had had enough money then to hire a surrogate abroad — or if surrogacy in Israel were then legal — Ruti would have a child today. Now her chances even of adopting a baby are nil. The best solution, Mashiah suggested, would have been if Danny had agreed to the implantation on condition that he had no financial or other obligations to the baby.

"I'm not a judge. Perhaps the right of a man not to be a father is equal to the right of a woman to be a mother," he added.

In fact, the Supreme Court's ruling supports the arguments of gynecologists that embryos are not "living beings," and thus they should be allowed to conduct experiments on them, Mashiah said. "If the court does not recognize the embryos as having a right to live, embryo research should be legalized."



Nahal soldiers complete basic training yesterday by marching to Pardess Hanna, where they received their green berets at the unit's memorial.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nahal pot-smokers released

The Jaffa Military Court yesterday gave jail terms of several weeks to two of the seven Nahal soldiers in Ofakim who were accused of smoking marijuana during their service.

Pvt. Hanoch Paz was sentenced to 32 days' imprisonment and three months' suspended. Pvt. Haggai Anson was sentenced to 24 days in jail.

The two were released, however, since the judges decided to count their time in detention towards their sentences.

Religious council head arrested

Yitzhak Shauli, 50, the chairman of the Eilat Religious Council, was arrested yesterday on suspicion of fraud and breach of trust.

Shauli is accused of demanding large sums for the religious council in return for granting kashrut certification to a hotel, and of hosting guests in local hotels at the council's expense. Police said other allegations against him are still being investigated.

He was released on NIS 20,000 bail and was required to turn in his passport.

Homeroom teachers to get raise

Seventh- and eighth-grade homeroom teachers and ninth-grade teachers in junior high schools are to receive a five percent salary increase, retroactive to September 1, under an agreement reached this week between the Histadrut Teachers Union and the Treasury.

The raise will be paid with the teachers' April salaries.

The union is continuing negotiations to have the increase given to ninth-grade homeroom teachers teaching in four-year high schools, and eventually to all homeroom teachers.

Geriatric hospital marks 100 years

President Ezer Weizman and his wife Reuma will be guests of honor at a dinner on Sunday marking the 100th anniversary of Herzog-Ezrat Nashim geriatric-psychiatric hospital in Jerusalem. The proceeds of the \$200-a-plate dinner at the Jerusalem Sheraton-Plaza will go toward the establishment of a hospice for terminal geriatric patients.

Jordan sends delegate to parley

Jordan yesterday sent a representative, Ramaz Busus, charges d'affaires of the Jordanian Embassy, to participate in the last day of the international conference of foreign ministry directors-general in Jerusalem.

Busus said the original delegate to the conference, Hani Mulki, had canceled his trip at the last minute without informing anyone, and this was the reason for the delay in sending a Jordanian representative.

A Palestinian representative, Samir Huleila, also arrived yesterday. Huleila, deputy director-general of PECODAR, the Palestinian economic development body, said he was participating in some discussions but is not an official delegate.

Tradition vs. The Dean in final

NCAA PREDICTION

ELIOT ZIMELMAN,

FIRST there was the original 64, which dwindled down quickly to the Sweet Sixteen, that became the Elite Eight, and now is the Final Four.

No, this isn't a modern version of a song we'll be singing late into the night two weeks from now, but rather a synopsis of the mad-dening experience college basketball players, coaches, and fans have experienced during this and every March.

For diehard college hoop fans throughout the country, don't despair, only three games and two sleepless nights remain on the agenda.

Early Sunday morning, at 12:42 a.m. to be exact, the Oklahoma State Cowboys take on the UCLA Bruins as the East (well, geography was never the selection committee's best subject) takes on the West.

The Cowboys are undoubtedly the tournament's major surprise. Although seeded fourth in the region, Eddie Sutton's club wasn't expected to go this far.

But the team, led by Bryant "Big Country" Reeves, has been most impressive on the defensive end, and somehow has managed to score enough points in upsetting Wake Forest and Massachusetts on their way to Seattle.

Their no-name roster includes shooting guard Randy Rutherford, who also shoots horseshoes in his native Okiedom, battleworn forward Scott Pierce and most valuable sixth man Chianti Roberts.

But the 7-foot Reeves is the Cowboys' major presence on both ends of the court. Against the Bruins, however, "Big Country" is going to feel pretty small.

UCLA, which heads into its first Final Four since 1980, sports an all-star collegiate lineup headed by co-player of the year and surefire lottery pick Ed O'Bannon.

The rest of the frontline has no weaknesses, with younger brother Charles O'Bannon and Czech

import George Zidek.

If you think the backcourt is the team's Achilles Heel, forget it. Tyus Edney, the best point guard in college, and freshman Toby Bailey, form a great pair. Off the bench is another freshman sensation in JR Henderson.

This team has everything, including the greatest tradition the college game has ever known, and will add another tournament victory to its impressive record after manhandling the Cowboys in Final Four game No. 1.

As for game No. 2, which immediately follows the first matchup, that's another story. Defending champs Arkansas go up against the North Carolina Tarheels in what should be a real treat.

Somewhat the Razorbacks have survived two overtime games and a one-point victory, but against Virginia in the Midwest Regional Finals the team finally showed why it was ranked No. 1 at the start of the year.

Corliss Williamson is a force to be reckoned with in the middle, and Scotty Thurman and Corey Beck give the team tremendous experience and talent in the backcourt.

The team goes nine or 10 deep, and is led by one of the game's top coaches, Nolan Richardson.

But when it comes to coaching giants, there's no one better than the Dean of College Hoops — Dean Smith, who this season has some top-notch athletes.

Center Rasheed Wallace and swingman Jerry Stackhouse make up the best sophomore tandem in the country, and they're complemented by veteran guard Donald Williams and three-point specialist Dante Calabria.

The Tarheels prefer a slower pace than the Razorbacks, but are also capable of controlling a high-scoring affair.

The game will be a see-saw battle that should make up for the first debacle, but in the end the Dean will prevail.

TODAY ON CABLE TV

7:00 Bodies in motion

7:30 Bodies in motion

8:00 Bodies in motion

8:30 Brazilian league soccer

8:30 Argentinean league soccer

11:00 National League basketball: Hapoel Holon v Gali Elyon

13:30 Spanish league soccer

15:00 WWF

16:00 Bushido

17:00 National League basketball highlights

17:30 Live volleyball: Mate Asher v Hapoel Aradim

19:30 National Basketball League final highlights

20:00 Thai boxing

22:00 March madness: NCAA basketball

22:00 Premier League soccer semi-final

00:30 National League basketball: Hapoel Holon v Gali Elyon

EUROSPORT

8:30 Tennis magazine

10:00 Leisure sport

10:30 Artistic gymnastics

12:00 WWF

13:00 European soccer

15:00 Motoring magazine

16:00 Snooker

17:30 Motorcycle magazine

18:00 International motoring magazine

19:30 Live show jumping

20:30 Eurosport news

21:00 Live show jumping

00:00 WWF

1:00 Motorcycle magazine

2:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORT

7:00 Motorcycle highlights

9:00 International motoring magazine

10:00 Cricket from India

11:00 Snooker

12:00 WWF

13:00 Asian soccer show

14:00 Talking baseball

14:30 NBA behind the scenes

15:00 NBA: Atlanta v Golden State

17:00 Bristol Gold Cup soccer semi-final

19:00 Asian soccer show

20:30 International motoring magazine

SATURDAY APRIL 1

CHANNEL 5

8:30 Table tennis

9:30 Spanish league soccer

11:00 Mundial

11:30 Premier League soccer

12:30 European soccer magazine

13:30 Volleyball playoffs

15:30 March madness: NCAA basketball

16:30 Handball

18:00 WWF

20:00 Thai boxing

20:30 March madness: NCAA basketball

22:00 National League soccer

23:00 Mundial

23:30 March madness: NCAA basketball

EUROSPORT

9:30 International motoring magazine

10:30 Adventure sport

11:30 European soccer highlights

13:00 Boxing

14:00 Figure skating

16:00 Latin dance

17:00 European aerobics championships

18:00 Bodybuilding

19:00 WWF

21:00 Live show jumping from Paris

1:00 Tennis

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 NBA: Atlanta v Golden State

8:00 Live horse racing from Hong Kong

10:30 World of rugby

11:30 Show jumping from Holland

12:00 Bristol Gold Cup soccer semi-final

14:00 European soccer show

15:00 WWF

16:00 Brazilian Grand Prix highlights

17:00 Golf

18:00 Cricket: W.Indies v Australia

19:00 Bristol Gold Cup soccer semi-final

21:00 Brazilian Grand Prix highlights

22:00 Cricket: W.Indies v Australia

00:00 European soccer show

1:00 Live NCAA basketball

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סוכנות ארץ חביבה

Bloom leads Davis Cup squad in tie against Norway

HEATHER CHAFF

GILAD Bloom will launch Israel's challenge against hosts Norway in the Euro-African Zone Group I Davis Cup tie, which gets underway in Oslo today.

The winner of the tie will advance to September's qualifying round for the 1996 World Group, where they will meet first round losers of the 1995 World Group.

The loser will have to fight to retain their place in the Euro-African Group I.

Israel must face the Davis Cup challenge without long-time star Amos Mansdorf, who retired last year.

Bloom, 28, 203 in the IBM/ATP rankings, will grapple with Norway's No. 2 player, Heide Koll, ranked well below Bloom at 692.

On paper, left-hander Bloom, currently Israel's top player, stands a good chance of winning and relieving the pressure on No. 2 Eyal Ran.

Ran (22, 223) will meet Norway's top player, Christian Roud, in today's second singles.

Roud is the highest ranked player in the tie at 75 and has carved himself a niche in world tennis, rising from 1994's year end of 103 to his current respectable mark.

His Davis Cup record is 11-6 in singles.

This is the second time Bloom has led Israel's attack. In 1992, Bloom was named as No. 1 singles racket after Amos Mansdorf was excluded due to a dispute with his fellow teammates and captain Shimon Glickstein.

In that tie, Israel beat Hungary 5-0 at Ramat Hasharon.

Bloom's Davis Cup career began in 1985 and has repeatedly revealed his tremendous power of resurgence.

His sensational 1993 win over Swiss Jakob Hasek in the decisive fifth rubber pushed Israel back into the 16-nation World Group.

Glickstein reckoned on the slow surface of the Norwegian indoor court producing slow, prolonged matches when choosing his singles players, but the tie may actually hinge on the doubles.

If Christian Roud wins both his singles rubbers and Bloom and Ran take theirs against Koll, the doubles would become the pivotal point.

Glickstein, doffing his characteristic reticence, has revealed that Noam Behr will be blooded alongside Eyal Erlich for the doubles lineup on Saturday. They will face the more experienced Norwegian pair of Roud and Bent Ove Pedersen.

In Sunday's reverse singles, Bloom will take on Roud in the battle of the number ones and Ran will face Koll in the fifth rubber.

The Israel/Norway scorecard stands at 1-1.

In 1956, Arie Avidan and Lazar Davidman lost 4-1 in Oslo. In 1971, playing in temperatures of 33 degrees in Ramat Gan, the Israel side of Davidman, Yehoshua Shalem, Ian Froman and Yosef Stabholz secured a 4-1 victory.

In both ties, the losing team gathered their lone point from the doubles rubber.



DETERMINED - Gilad Bloom hopes to continue his spirited Davis Cup play. (Hanoach Gutmann)

Smashnova loses to Rubin

ANNA Smashnova was defeated by Chandra Rubin of the United States in the second round of the \$806,250 Family Circle Magazine Cup in Hilton Head, South Carolina on Wednesday.

Rubin, ranked 41 in the WTA listings, beat Smashnova (43) 5-7, 6-3, 6-4.

In the first round, Smashnova scored a sensational win over 12th seed Zina Garrison-Jackson, winning 6-1, 2-6, 6-4.

In today's semifinals of the Ada Moross circuit in Haifa, Tzippi Obziler meets Nataly Cahana and Ukraine's Tessa Shapovalova battles Bulgaria's Yana Sokolenko.

Mac. TA, Galil draw first blood in Final 4

Defending champs rout Hapoel TA, northerners outlast Hapoel Holon

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

IT ISN'T going to be easy to dethrone National Basketball League champs Maccabi Tel Aviv this season.

Coach Muli Katzurin and his squad served notice that they're in tip-top form for the "Second Season" when they mauled Hapoel Tel Aviv 94-68 at Yad Eliahu last night in the first game of the Final Four.

Meanwhile, Hapoel Galil Elyon put another nail in the coffin of slumping Hapoel Holon, exploiting the absence of Holon center Shelton Jones to the maximum for a 94-84 away victory.

Thirteen of the last 15 clubs to take a 1-0 lead in Final Four competition have gone on to win the series.

Exploiting its advantage under the backboards early, Maccabi Tel Aviv raced to a 10-0 early lead that they held onto throughout the first half.

Radisav Curcic and Norris Coleman controlled the rebounds, with Coleman scoring 11 and Curcic 8 in the half, most on put-backs.

Meanwhile, Hapoel Tel Aviv's duo of Buck Johnson and Milton Wagner failed to supply the goods, with Johnson losing ball after ball and Wagner limited to three first-half points, all from the foul line.

Maccabi coach Muli Katzurin had the luxury of using his reserves, and it was Yisrael Elimelech, replacing Guy Goodes, who

Taking it to the hoop time after time, Steinhauer scored eight of his 23 points within a short span to give his team a 67-65 lead before veteran Brad Leaf hit a three to take the momentum away from Holon. Steinhauer's fourth foul then sent him to the bench.

Leaf turned things over to Katsash and Dozier, who provided the necessary offensive punch when David Thirdkill's first two points of the second half drew Holon to 79-77.

Two quick hoops by Dozier and a three-pointer by Katsash put the game out of reach at 86-80, and Steinhauer's valiant effort turned out to be for nothing.

Seldom used Pini Levy, who started in place of Jones, had 14 points for Holon.

Only about 1,500 fans turned up for the game, many from the Galilee, and Holon fans have reason to be depressed.

A league disciplinary committee is in rule today on what punishment, if any, the team will receive for its fans antics at the State Cup final.

There were no surprises in the lower playoffs (to determine which teams play in the Korac Cup) other than the 41 points scored by Amir Katz in host Bnei Herzliya's 108-104 victory over Hapoel Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, Rishon LeZion held off a late spur by Hapoel Eilat to win its opening contest, 80-73.

Tyson promises return to ring, with King as promoter

CLEVELAND (AP) - Mike Tyson, saying he wanted to "associate myself with the biggest and the best," announced yesterday he will return to boxing and that Don King will remain his promoter.

In his first public comments since being released from prison last Saturday, Tyson ended speculation of a rift between him and King. He did not take any questions after reading a brief statement at Gund Arena.

"Don is the greatest promoter in the world, as we know," Tyson said.

Tyson, the former undisputed heavyweight champion, said longtime friends John Home and Rory Holloway will manage him.

He also said his fight will be on the Showtime cable network and that he has an agreement to fight at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

"I want to associate myself with the biggest and the best," Tyson said, "and I look forward to working with them and seeing you soon."

At the start of his statement, Tyson spoke briefly about how he spent his three years in prison on

a tape conviction.

"For the past three years I've had a chance to reflect on my life and to develop my mind," Tyson said, "and I will continue my journey to making myself a better person so I can help others."

Wearing a straw hat and black suit, Tyson arrived at the arena in a black limousine, but waited nearly an hour before reading a 76-second statement.

He ended his statement by saying "May Allah bless you all. Thank you."

Among those present at the arena were promoters Harold

Rossfields Smith, Bilal Muhammad and Akbar Muhammad.

There have been many reports since Tyson's release that he would dump King as his promoter. King reportedly was at his Florida home because of his wife Henrietta's illness.

Tyson, 28, did not mention when he hopes to return to the ring for what could be a series of some of the richest fights in history.

Before the statement, Smith, who served prison time for embezzling \$24 million from the Wells Fargo bank, said, "Tyson

won't be free until his probation is over because of all the restrictions."

Tyson's probation lasts four years.

It was the second time in two days Tyson left his estate in Southington, Ohio. On Wednesday, he made a 30-minute trip to Youngstown and met with probation officer Dennis Almasi.

Almasi said he was forbidden by law to talk about Tyson's case or to have any relationship with him beyond professional. But he said Tyson will get no special treatment.

League soccer action resumes following drama against France

DEREK FATTAL

AFTER the excitement of the national squad's heroics against France on Wednesday night, attention turns back to the bread and butter diet of the National League this weekend.

For pools pointers the chance of winning a share of the NIS 16 million Sportoto prize will add spice to tomorrow afternoon's 23rd round fixture list.

For the purists, the main focus of attention, following last weekend's break, is the fight at the top of the table between leader Maccabi Tel Aviv and defending champions Maccabi Haifa.

Haifa's title hopes were blunted by its second defeat of the season at the hands of Bnei Yehuda Tel Aviv. That loss enabled Maccabi Tel Aviv to leapfrog over the champions into top spot, through a win over Bnei Yehuda 2-0.

Tomorrow the Tel Avivians face a difficult encounter in Rishon LeZion. The hosts completed a tidy 2-0 victory in the first meeting of the season.

Maccabi Haifa travels south to meet third-place Hapoel Petah Tikva.

With so many Haifa players

having played in Wednesday's battle-against France, the Haifa-fans are bound to be tired, and coach Giora Spiegel may have a job on his hands ensuring that his charges do not make mistakes against the dangerous Hapoel lineup.

With a mere six points dividing last-place Ironi Ashdod from eighth-place Hapoel Haifa, there is no room for any side in the lower order to be complacent.

The occupiers of the relegation places, Maccabi Herzliya and Ironi Ashdod, will hope to relieve the pressure by getting some points from their respective games against Hapoel Haifa and Hapoel Tel Aviv.

This weekend's National League soccer fixtures (kickoff 4:30 p.m. tomorrow unless otherwise stated, first round results in brackets):

Ironi Rishon LeZion v. Maccabi Tel Aviv (2-0), Rishon: Hapoel Petah Tikva v. Maccabi Haifa (1-3), Petah Tikva: Bnei Yehuda v. Hapoel Be'er Sheva (3-0), Be'er Sheva: Hapoel Tel Aviv v. Ironi Ashdod (3-0), Be'er Sheva: Bnei Yehuda v. Maccabi Tel Aviv (1-0), Tel Aviv: Hapoel Haifa v. Maccabi Herzliya (1-1), Rishon: Hapoel Be'er Sheva v. Bnei Yehuda (2-0), Bnei Yehuda: Bnei Yehuda v. Maccabi Netanya (2-3), Haifa:

SPORTS BRIEFS

ManU's Bruce out of Cup semifinal

Manchester United captain Steve Bruce will miss Sunday's league match against Leeds United and the FA Cup semifinal against Crystal Palace a week later after being banned yesterday by the Football Association.

The United central defender was banned for two matches and fined £750 by an FA disciplinary commission for reaching 41 penalty points.

Ewing's 28 points sink Pistons

Patrick Ewing scored 28 points as the New York Knicks defeated the host Detroit Pistons 107-97 on Wednesday. New York had a 12-3 stretch run to take a 104-93 advantage with less than a minute to play.

Hubert Davis scored six of his 15 points in the late run for New York, which stopped a two-game losing streak. Allan Houston scored 32 points and Grant Hill had 26 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists for the Pistons, who have lost nine of their last 11 games.

In other action, it was San Antonio 107, Los Angeles Lakers 84; Miami 101, Washington 97; Philadelphia 99, Charlotte 81; Indiana 107, Cleveland 96; and Seattle 109, Minnesota 92.

Blues snap Blackhawks' winning streak

Brendan Shanahan broke a tie early in the third period and the St. Louis Blues used tough defense to shut down the host Chicago Blackhawks 3-1 on Wednesday. Shanahan pounced on the puck in the slot after a failed clearing pass by Chicago defenseman Chris Chelios and scored his 12th goal of the season, a powerplay tally, to give the Blues a 2-1 lead at 3:15 of the third period.

The Blues won their third straight and snapped Chicago's five-game winning streak by holding the Blackhawks to one goal on just 18 shots, including only nine in the first two periods. Chicago had scored 27 goals during its winning streak.

In other action, it was Florida 4, Hartford 4 in overtime; New Jersey 4, Ottawa 2; Washington 4, Tampa Bay 2; and Vancouver 5, Los Angeles 2.

Dolphins ship Keith Jackson to Packers

Keith Jackson, a five-time NFL All-Star, has been traded by the Miami Dolphins to the Green Bay Packers for an undisclosed draft choice. Jackson, 29, has caught 388 passes for 4,636 yards and 38 touchdowns in his nine-year career.

But he was deemed expendable by the Dolphins after they signed free agent tight end Eric Green. He is also coming off a down year. He had 59 receptions for 673 yards and seven touchdowns but also was criticized by coach Don Shula and teammates for a number of drops.

Virginia Tech beats Marquette for NIT title

Shawn Smith made two free throws with less than a second left in overtime to give Virginia Tech a 65-64 victory over Marquette for college basketball's NIT championship Wednesday night. Smith, who finished with 24 points, was fouled by Faisal Abraham as he went up for a shot under the basket with seven-tenths of a second remaining.

Ex-England spinner Tony Lock dies

LONDON (Reuters) - Former England Test spinner Tony Lock has died at his home in Perth, Surrey County Cricket Club announced yesterday.

Lock, who was 65, was suffering from lung cancer.

Lock will be forever remembered as the England bowler who took one Australian wicket at Old Trafford while Jim Laker was busy capturing the other 19 in that historic Ashes Test of 1956.

But if Lock was destined to play in Laker's shadow then, and on other occasions, together they formed what was the world's best spin partnership.

They gave England an enviable attack and, as Surrey teammates, helped their county to win seven straight county championships from 1952-58.

A brilliant short-leg fielder, capable lower order batsman and always aggressive left-arm bowler, he played 49 Tests for England, three more than Laker, and his 174 wickets were gained at an average of 25.58.

After leaving Surrey, Leicestershire tempted him back for three summers in the mid-60s and in the winter of 1967-68, England



BRILLIANT - Together with Jim Laker, Tony Lock formed the world's best spin partnership.

flew him to the West Indies after Fred Titmus had lost four toes in a boating accident.

He arrived in time to play two Tests on that Caribbean campaign and marked the last of his 49 appearances by scoring a ca-

reer-best 89 in Guyana to help England draw the match and win the series.

He emigrated to Australia in 1963 and became captain of Western Australia, leading them to the Sheffield Shield title.

Owners okay 'replacement ball' during season

NEW YORK (AP) - Baseball owners voted 26-2 today to authorize the use of replacement players during the 1995 season.

The vote, considered a formality, was taken during a major league meeting conducted by telephone.

The Baltimore Orioles, who have refused to hire replacements, voted against the resolution, as did the Toronto Blue Jays, according to a source who participated in the telephone call.

In a statement issued after the meeting, owners said all games with replacements would count in the standings.

Acting commissioner Bud Selig said he would travel from Mil-

waukee to New York later in the day for the anticipated resumption of strike talks.

With a federal judge set to hold a hearing today on whether to issue an injunction that would end the walkout, the union prepared a counteroffer to the plan owners gave them Monday.

US District Judge Sonia Sotomayor has scheduled a hearing for Friday - just two days before the scheduled season opener - on the petition by the National Labor Relations Board for a preliminary injunction against owners.

The NLRB has accused them of illegally changing the terms of the expired collective bargaining agreement before an impasse in

bargaining.

The union's executive board voted unanimously Wednesday to end the 7 1/2-month strike if Sotomayor issues an injunction restoring salary arbitration and free-agent bidding.

In their latest proposal, owners offered to keep basically intact the system of free agency and salary arbitration under the expired deal.

"We're definitely on the same planet," said Eugene Orza, the union's No. 2 official.

"We're even in the same continent."

That left the owners' demand for a luxury tax as the primary obstacle.

England draws with Uruguay in friendly

LONDON (Reuters) - Andy Cole hit the bar on his long-awaited international debut as England were held to a 0-0 draw by Uruguay in a bad-tempered friendly at Wembley on Wednesday.

Cole, the most expensive player in English soccer after his transfer from Newcastle to Manchester United in January, came on as a 71st minute substitute to the delight of the 35,000-strong crowd, who had seen precious little to cheer about.

A few minutes later the speedy striker snatched a fierce header against the Uruguay bar.

It was the undoubted high point of a frequently frustrating encounter that nonetheless maintained England manager Terry Venables' unbeaten record after seven games and maintained Uruguay's fine run of results against England.

The hosts, who drew 0-0 with Uruguay in the opening game of the 1966 World Cup, have beaten the South Americans only twice in nine matches, their last victory coming in 1969.

Venables, whose team have qualified as hosts for next year's European championship finals, said he was happy with the way the match had gone tactically.

"We know we can play a lot better than that, but at the same time Uruguay are a very good side," he said.

Venables singled out man-of-the-match Darren Anderton as well as newcomers Cole and Nick Barry, making his debut as a second-half substitute for Peter Beardsley, for special praise.

"I was intending to try and get the new boys on," he said. "They feel happier now - they've been blooded."

While the second half had some exciting moments, with Teddy Sheringham heading just over and Uruguay's Gustavo Poyet shooting fractionally wide following a corner, the first was marked by unambitious passing and solid tackling.

The two teams managed a total of just seven shots in the first 45 minutes, none of them particularly threatening.

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TechSat never made orbit

DAVID RUDGE

THE Technion has received official confirmation from the Russians that its satellite never reached orbit and probably crashed into the sea shortly after the highly publicized launch.
"We received information from the Russians that the fifth stage of the missile didn't ignite, and therefore the rocket didn't get into orbit," Technion president Zehev Tadmor said last night.
"It was only a very short communication and we expect to receive a full explanation and detailed analysis within the next 10 days."
"We will only be able to tell exactly what went wrong when we get the full report," said Tadmor. "Certainly, however, it is great disappointment because we thought that as far as the rocketry was concerned, we would not have any failures, since the Russians are very experienced in this."

Tadmor indicated that future cooperation with the Russians would depend on the detailed report.
The Gurwin-1 TechSat cost the Technion more than \$3.5 million to design and build, with the financial support of New York businessman Joseph Gurwin and the Science Ministry, and the help of experts from 10 leading Israeli high-tech companies. This included the \$250,000 to launch the satellite.

Technion scientists, however, noted that with the design and construction plans already in hand, it would probably cost only \$750,000 to recreate the satellite.
For the Russians, the loss of face is even more worrying, especially because the launch of TechSat was designed to show the world that the SS-25 missile, renamed START, could be used for civilian purposes. They had intended to build on the success to attract bigger clients from the US, Europe, Australia, South Africa, and other countries, thereby bringing in foreign currency to boost Russia's sagging economy.

Now Russia's future plans are in jeopardy, unless it can satisfy the Technion and through them other interested parties, that the START system can put commercial satellites into space.

"We will have to re-evaluate our cooperation with the Russians, but we will only be able to make a judgment after we have received a full and detailed explanation as to what went wrong and why and whether it was a mishap, or something more fundamental," said Tadmor.

Report: More violence against Jews in '94

BATSHEVA TSUR

GROWING collaboration between fundamentalist Moslem groups and the extreme Right in Europe has led to a dangerous rise in antisemitic activities in the past year, according to the Annual Report on Antisemitism in the World, compiled by Tel Aviv University, the World Jewish Congress, and the Anti-Defamation League.

The report notes an increase in violence against Jews, mostly with the intent to kill.

Presented to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday in Tel Aviv, the report notes tens of

thousands of Moslem activists who have joined fundamentalist groups over the past year throughout Europe, particularly in Germany and France, as well as in North America. The fundamentalists are involved in antisemitic activity both on their own and in collaboration with xenophobic right-wing groups.

The number of violent antisemitic crimes against Jews rose from 42 in 1993 to 72 last year, the report noted. A worrisome phenomenon was the spread of violent activity in Western Europe, where there were 32 such

incidents last year, compared with 15 in 1993.

But such activity also included vandalism of Jewish cemeteries and monuments, the distribution of antisemitic publications, books, and video games, and other activities. In Germany alone, there was a 100% increase in reported antisemitic activities.

Paradoxically, the reexamination of the Holocaust in the light of the 50th anniversary of the victory over the Nazis has had the effect of bringing right-wing ide-

ologies to the fore again, the report noted.

"It has become fashionable to attack Jewish sites," said Dr. Dina Porat, head of the Institute for the Study of Antisemitism at Tel Aviv University. "For example, in the discussions about the fate of the Jews in World War II, there are those who again raise the issue of Jews wanting money - this time in the light of reparations requests."

Islamic fundamentalism, backed by Iran, is the No. 1 threat not only to the Middle East peace process, but to the entire

world, Rabin told the participants in the meeting. He noted that in Holland, which does not have a large indigenous Moslem population, the number of mosques has grown over the past decade from one to 300.

The study was conducted by Porat in conjunction with the World Jewish Congress and the Anti-Defamation League, as well as the cabinet forum that monitors antisemitism. The report was presented to Rabin by WJC President Edgar Bronfman, ADL-Israel director Harry Wall, and Porat.



A despondent Yisrael Zamir, deputy editor of 'Al Hamishmar,' contemplates an uncertain future as he puts out the Kibbutz Artzi newspaper's final issue, published today. Giora Forman, secretary-general of Kibbutz Artzi, issued a statement yesterday saying that workers would get all the compensation due them. Meanwhile, French businessman Jean Friedman has decided not to buy the Histadrut newspaper 'Davar,' the labor federation announced yesterday. Following this decision, 'Al Hamishmar' editor Zvi Timor sent a letter to Histadrut officials, offering to try to produce a paper together with the staff of 'Davar.' (Text: Tim; Photo: Dan Ossendryver/Israel Sun)

Netanya officials accused of corruption

Public interest group blasts mayor for fraud, breach of trust, theft, and forgery

RAINE MARCUS

THE Movement for Quality Government filed a police complaint yesterday against Netanya Mayor Zvi Poleg, for alleged offenses of fraud, breach of trust, theft of public funds, forgery, threats, and corruption.

Also named in the complaint, based on tips received by the movement, were Deputy Mayor Efraim Bulmesh and outgoing city manager Motti Hod.

The Netanya Municipality yesterday issued a statement denying the accusations.

"All persons mentioned operated legally,"

read the statement. "We are sorry that interested parties have dragged the Movement for Quality Government into internal political wars."

The movement alleges that Bulmesh presented false reports to the Labor Party treasurer relating to the establishment of two election headquarters in Netanya and pocketed NIS 5,000 for activities that were never carried out.

The movement also alleges that Poleg gave those who helped in his election campaign bonuses worth hundreds of thousands of shekels.

One example cited in the complaint is an alleged NIS 10,000 payment by the municipality to a campaigner in return for demolishing his own illegally built shelter.

"In our opinion, it is inconceivable that, instead of imposing a fine on the offender, the municipality decided to award him a financial prize," the complaint states.



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Man on trial for raping girl, 11

THE trial of a 50-year-old man accused of repeatedly raping an 11-year-old girl neighbor opened yesterday in Tel Aviv District Court.

The girl, his distant relative, is eight months pregnant. The case surfaced in February, when a teacher noticed her condition.

The man, whose identity is banned from publication to protect the victim, admitted raping the girl, but denied making her pregnant. He was released on bail two weeks ago.

Raine Marcus

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